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'THE'
HIND RAJASTHAN
OF
THE ANNALS OF THE NATIVE STATES OF INDIA.

—:***:—
COMPILED

BY

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18,654

THE PUBLISHER,

AMRITLAL G. SHAH, BAPAWALA,

OF

✓ **Rewarwa (Rewa Kantha).**

✓ **Printed at the Ahmedabad Times Press, and the Baroda
Nutan Vilas Printing Press Co. Ltd., and the Lakshmi Vilas P.**

Sole Agents: —SHRI DANKESHWAR VYAPARI

(FORMERLY S. N. JOSHI & Co.), DAKOTA

1896.



श्रीमंत महाराजल श्री प्रतापसिंहल गुलाबसिंहल
राजल साहेब राज्य स्थापन वाराणसी-राजत १८५२.

PREFACE.

—:0:—

Nearly three years have elapsed since the idea of compiling a work on the Annals of the Native States of India was first suggested to us by the Publisher. In presenting this volume to the public, we confess there is hardly any thing novel in its publication. Writers of exceptional eminence and profound scholarship have preceded us in this branch of Historical Literature; but the fact that their writings are diffused over several volumes, which would form a decent library of a well-to-do gentleman and that they are not within easy reach of ordinary readers, would be deemed a sufficient excuse for this publication.

The historical account of the different Native States, into which the vast continent of India is divided, has been exhaustively narrated by Sir W. W. Hunter in the volumes of the Imperial Gazetteer of India, by Sir Charles Aitchison in his collection of the Treaties and Engagements and by James Campbell in the Compilations of the Bombay Gazetteer. 'History,' says Macaulay 'at least, in its state of ideal perfection, is a compound of poetry and philosophy.' Col. Tod and Kinloch Forbes depict the poetic side of the History of the different Rajasthans in Rajputana, Gujarat, Kathiawad and Cutch, while the more recent treatises of Tupper and Lee. Warner give the philosophic picture of the Indian Protectorate. This volume simply aims at furnishing a historical sketch of the Princes, Chiefs and Zamindars that form the landed aristocracy of the country, from early times down to the present generation. If this volume fails to afford any matter for serious contemplation, it will at least acquaint the reader with the chivalrous exploits of the Rajput kings of old, the degeneracy into which their descendants fell under the Mahomedan and the Maratha rule, their first contact with the benign British Government and the subsequent recrudescence of their states in conformity with the ideas of modern civilization and progress. It is very difficult to exactly estimate the merits, excellences, capabilities or otherwise of contemporary rulers. This task we leave for future historians to accomplish. We have, for the present, contented ourselves with a bare mention of the efforts they have been making towards the amelioration of the condition of their subjects: whether those efforts have borne the desired fruits or not we have left unsaid. It is not with a view to flatter the ruling Sovereigns that we have desisted from

commenting at length on their modes of government: we are conscious of the fact that they are not above the common frailties of mankind. What we maintain is that, for the present, public judgment should be reserved and neither praise nor blame be apportioned to them, until they are given their full trial. In certain places the bare enumeration of events may appear to our readers a little tiresome and uninteresting, but this was inevitable. We do not meet with thrilling or sensational incidents all the days of a man's life. It is the daily dry routine that goes to make up the existence of a man: and what is true of an individual is also true of a nation. Episodes of wars, conflicts, court-intrigues, amours, mythological legends and chivalrous feats of the knights-errants enliven the pages of this work, yet at the same time the importance of such common events as the bestowal of appanages on the cadets of the ruling families has not also been overlooked. These events, trite as they seem, have a special significance of their own, in as much as they indicate how some of the large and important principalities have now dwindled down to petty and unimportant chiefships by the grant of large territorial *jagirs* to the *Bhayads*, claiming their descent from a common ancestor.

The information contained in these annals may, it is hoped, furnish some future historian with materials, which he may utilise as a basis for his valuable generalisations in the construction of a philosophy of history. Col. Tod's celebrated work on the Rajasthan has of late been a little lightly thought of on the ground that the writer has in several places indulged in exaggerations and lofty rhapsodies: but as we stated above Col. Tod only wrote the Romance of the Hind Rajasthan and his critics are therefore not justified in trying to seek philosophy in his poetry. The present work also aims at nothing more than giving a mere narration of events which signalled the different epochs of Indian History. The brave and valorous exploits of the kings of Mewad, Marwad and other Rajasthans, the ideal chastity of the typical Rajputanis, the rare heroism and loyalty of some of the courtiers and generals in the service of their lords, so feelingly and pathetically depicted in the pages of Col. Tod have been embodied here as forming one portion of the present work. The other portion is devoted to the equally important chiefships, which were built on the ruins of the Mughal and the Maratha sovereignties. The accounts of these latter, devoid as they are of stirring and interesting episodes, would naturally appear a little tame to our readers; but if, they bear in mind the fact that in the present age our ruling Chiefs have to achieve victories of peace no less renowned

than war', they will admit that the rulers of these comparatively modern states have always evinced a greater inclination to adopt and carry out the more enlightened principles of government obtaining in the West, than their brother Princes of Rajputana.

We would be failing in our duty were we not to acknowledge our indebtedness to the authors of the following works, on which we have mainly drawn for the materials of this volume.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Sir Charles Aitchison's Treaties, Engagements &c. | 2. Tod's Annals and Antiquities of Rajasthan. |
| 3. Forbes' Rasmala. | 4. Sir. W. Hunter's Imperial Gazetteer. |
| 5. Campbell's Bombay Gazetteer. | 6. Col. Malleson's Native States of India. |
| 7. Sir R. Lethbridge's Golden Book of India. | 8. Sir. J. Malcom's Memoirs of Central India and Malwa. |
| 9. Grant Duff's History of the Marathas. | 10. Sir. L. Griffin's Rajas of the Punjab. |
| 11. Mackay's Native chiefs and their States in 1877. | 12. Rousselet's India and its Native Princes. |
| 13. L. N. Ghose's Modern History of Indian Rajas &c. | 14. Amarnath's Short History of Ratlam. |
| 15. Lee-warner's Indian Protectorate. | 16. Tavarikh-e-Malwa. |

This work has been divided into three parts, the first treating of such States as are entitled to salutes; the second deals with petty chiefships not entitled to salutes; whilst the third is taken up by a succinct account of the lesser Zamindars and Nobles, representing the landed interest in the Empire. The materials for the Second and Third Parts have been chiefly derived from Sir. R. Lethbridge's Golden Book of India, a Dictionary of the Ruling Chiefs, Zamiadars and Nobles of this country. The order of arrangement in the First Part has been the same as that in Mackay's work; while in the Second and the Third Parts an alphabetical arrangement has been deemed more expedient.

We take this opportunity of expressing our heart-felt thanks to our friend, Mr. Thakorram Kapilram Mehta, B. A. LL. B, who has materially assisted us in the compilation of this work. We must not forget to express our sense of obligation to Mr. N. N. Mody who has spared no pains in giving a wide publicity to the present work. Our best thanks are also

due to Mr Amritlal G. Shah, Bapawala, the Publisher, for suggesting to us the idea of undertaking this work and for taking upon himself the *onus* of vouchsafing for the accuracy of the historical account contained therein. For all other faults we 'shield ourselves under no other protection than the indulgence of the reader.' If the publication of this work only creates an interest in the minds of our readers in the administration of our Native Princes and Chiefs or furnishes even raw materials for some future historian to work upon, we shall consider our trouble amply recompensed.

The College, Baroda. }
1st October 1896. }

M. N. M.



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* The Separate contents for the II and III Parts are not given as the Minor States, and chiefdoms contained therein are arranged alphabetically.

A short statement showing the number of troops each
ruling Chief is entitled to retain in his service.

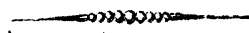
No.	Name of the State.	Cavalry.	Infantry.	Guns
1	Ajaigarh	97	544	13
2	Alirajpur	11	169	7
3	Alwar	2,189	3,676	357
4	Bahawalpur	443	1,352	11
5	Balasinor	60	177	5
6	Bansda	24	111	1
7	Banswara	640	783	14
8	Baoni	9	185	2
9	Baraundha	15	75	6
10	Baria	38	250	3
11	Baroda	3,562	4,988	38
12	Barwani	17	225	9
13	Bharatpur	1,647	8,207	54
14	Bhavnagar	550	2,300	15
15	Bhopal	803	2,030	69
16	Bijawar	100	1,000	13
17	Bikaner	400	564	91
18	Bundi	446	1,835	144
19	Cambay	36	496	12
20	Chamba	12	200	3
21	Charkhari	188	1,552	42
22	Chhatarpur	39	814	39
23	Chhota-Udepur	50	256	4
24	Cochin	16	327	4
25	Datia	945	5,203	124
26	Dewas (Senior Branch.)	70	594	14
27	„ (Junior Branch.)	79	166	6
28	Dhar	367	1,249	5
29	Dharampur	40	171	4
30	Dholpur	139	1,588	32
31	Dhrangadra	103	470	9
32	Dungarpur	257	535	8
33	Faridkot	70	300	6

II.

No.	Name of the State.	Cavalry.	Infantry.	Guns.
34	Gondal	91	504	3
35	Gwalior	5,504	11,040	48
36	Haidarabad	6,221	24,068	35
37	Idar	54	100	21
38	Indore	3,231	6,128	65
39	Jaipur	3,578	16,999	281
40	Jaisalmer	140	353	25
41	Jammu and Kashmir	288
42	Janjira		310	179
43	Jaora	63	177	15
44	Jhabua	64	253	4
45	Jhalawad	403	3,873	94
46	Jind	379	1,571	12
47	Jodhpur	3,162	3,653	121
48	Junagarh	251	1,972	66
49	Kahlur	40	620	11
50	Kapurthala	197	829	13
51	Karoli	281	1,640	56
52	Khairpur	700	774	32
53	Khilchipur	45	202	2
54	Kishangarh	499	2,000	51
55	Kolhapur	255	1,902	67
56	Kotah	949	5,776	148
57	Kuch Bihar	9	176	4
58	Kutch	354	1,412	164
59	Limbdi	35	174	28
60	Lunawada	201	295	40
61	Maihar	8	227	7
62	Maler Kotla	60	228	6
63	Mandi	25	1,600	10
64	Morbi	121	1,155	7
65	Mysore	1,173	3,425	10
66	Nabha	366	1,253	18
67	Nagode	6	116	4
68	Narsinghgarh	318	450	16
69	Nawanagar	191	3,060	117
70	Palanpur	294	697	80

m.

No.	Name of the State.	Cavalry.	Infantry.	Guns
71	Palitana	74	401	7
72	Panna	165	1,157	36
73	Pratapgarh	327	454	4
74	Patiala	2,423	4,147	109
75	Porbandar	14	236	113
76	Pudukota	16	136	27
77	Radhanpur	248	362	10
78	Rajgarh	300	360	6
79	Rajkot	40	310	8
80	Rajpipla	77	443	23
81	Rampur	598	2,417	28
82	Ratlam	134	246	5
83	Rewah	691	3,135	55
84	Sachin	5	52	4
85	Sailana	21	152	3
86	Samthar	290	2,275	46
87	Sawantwari	12	400	34
88	Sirmur	100	408	10
89	Sirohi	199	532	8
90	Sitamau	40	125	6
91	Suket	12	12	4
92	Sunth	98	226	4
93	Tehri (Urcha).	350	4,400	90
94	Tonk	510	2,081	77
95	Travancore	61	1,442	6
96	Udaipur	5,560	19,344	464
97	Wadhwan	49	280	5
98	Wankaner	73	312	15



CHAPTER I

STATES ENTITLED TO A SALUTE OF 21 GUNS.

HAIDARABAD OR THE DOMINIONS OF THE NIZAM.

Area—98,000 sq. miles. Population—13,000,000.

Revenue—about 4,00,00,000 rupees.

Haidarabad, or the dominions of the Nizam, is bounded on the north and north-east by the Central Provinces; on the south and south-east by territories subject to the Presidency of Madras; on the west and north-west by territories subject to the Presidency of Bombay.

The rulers of Haidarabad are known in the history of India by the title of the Nizam. The founder of their dynasty was Chin Khilich Khan, a Mahomedan Sardar belonging to a respectable Turk family. Aurangzeb, the Mughal Emperor of Delhi, appointed him as Subahdar or Viceroy of the Deccan with the distinctive title of "Asaf Jah" or "Nizam-ul-Mulk" (Regulator of the State.), which has since become hereditary in the family. After the death of the Emperor in 1707, the Imperial throne was successively occupied by Bahadur Shah, Jahandar Shah and Farukshiyar, the last of whom ascended the *masnad* in the year 1713. He was a mere nominal Emperor, the sole power being usurped by the two Saiyyad brothers Hussain Ali and Abdulla. One of them arrogated to himself complete mastery over the civil affairs, while the other assumed command over the vast army of the Empire. These two brothers were so over-bearing in their behaviour towards their master and his vassals, that their authority was openly defied by the nobility, headed by four principal Umrahs at the

court of Delhi. The Saiyyads were publicly vilified by Nizam-ul-Mulk, and Sadat Khan. When Mahomed Shah was crowned Emperor in 1719, Nizam-ul-Mulk was raised to the position of the Grand Wazier. He, however, did not choose to stay at the capital, but, retiring to his satrapy in the Deccan, in 1724, began to rule independently though without assuming any regal authority. The province of Malwa once formed part of his domains, but it was subsequently wrested from him by Baji Rao Peshwa and Malhar Rao Holkar, who one by one denuded the vast Mughal Empire of its mighty provinces and districts. The Nizam thereupon proceeded to Haidarabad and made it his seat of Government. Even there he was not quite secure from the inroads of the Marathas and had often to measure strength with them in many a field of battle, to maintain his supremacy in the Deccan. At the time of his demise in 1744, his dominions comprised vast tracts of land extending from the Narbada to Trichinopoli and from Masulipatam to Bijapur.

Asaf Jah left behind him six sons, legitimate and illegitimate; besides these, he had six daughters. The eldest Gazi-ud-din Khan already held the high post of Amir-ul-Umrah at the Imperial court and the succession to the Haidarabad throne next devolved upon Nasir Jang. His nephew (sister's son) Muzafar Jang, however, strongly resisted his accession to the *masnad* and raising the standard of revolt, urged his claims to the throne. He succeeded in obtaining the assistance of Chanda Sahib, the son-in-law of the Suba of the Karnatick, as well as of the French Governor at Pondicherry. The English on the other hand, espoused the cause of Nasir Jang; and then commenced the great rivalry between the two European nations, which fought tooth and nail for the Empire of India. The French generals in the army of Muzafar Jang deserted his cause for some reason or other and he was compelled to seek submission at the feet of Nasir Jang in 1750. His partisan Chanda Sahib also fled to Pondicherry. Nasir Jang ordered Muzafar Jang to be loaded with heavy chains and shut up in a dungeon. He proved a weak, lazy and pleasure-seeking ruler. His large army was once surprised by 300 French soldiers and so many as 1000 of his men were killed. M. Dupleix, the astute Governor of the French possessions in India, now carried on negotiations for peace with Nasir Jang. Capturing the hill-fort of Ginji and carrying on war-like operations with great vigour, he compelled the Nizam to come to terms with him. The stipulations of a treaty were drawn up but the Nizam persistently refused to affix his sign-manual to the paper. The Pathans at the instigation of the French Governor

rose against their lord, Nasir Jang, and murdering him, they released Muzafar Jang from captivity and placed him upon the throne. He also met with a similar fate at the hands of the same Pathan soldiery.

The French next espoused the cause of Salabat Jang, the third son of Nizam-ul-Mulk, who became the sovereign of the Nizam's dominions. Gazi-ud-din, the eldest brother, who was till then residing at Delhi, marched towards the Deccan at the head of a large army with the intention of snatching the diadem off the brow of Salabat Jang. He was, however, on his way, treacherously poisoned at Aurangabad, in the year 1752. From the day that their protege Salabat Jang was seated on the *masnad*, the French began to wield unbounded influence at the Court of Haidarabad. The Nizam was under a deep debt of gratitude to them, in recognition whereof he employed in his army a French General named M. Bussy. The Nizam in return for the signal service rendered to him from time to time, bestowed upon him the vast territory lying between Masulipatam and Jagannatha Puri, a rich tract of land admeasuring nearly 300 *Kos*. The French became the masters of these newly acquired regions. This, however, led to a struggle with the English. General Bussy fought with singular bravery but at last he fell into the hands of his opponents. M. Conflans was then appointed in the place left vacant by the capture of M. Bussy. He also sustained a signal defeat at the hands of the English, under Colonel Forde, in a well contested battle fought on December 9, 1759. The French now yielded to the supremacy of the British power and their influence at the Nizam's court came to an end. Masulipatam with its adjoining territories was finally ceded to the English.

Salabat Jang sustained a disastrous defeat at the battle of Udgir in the year 1756, and the Peshwa conquered the district of Bijapur. After the expulsion of M. Bussy from the court of Haidarabad in 1761, Salabat Jang was dethroned and his brother, Nizam Ali, assumed regal authority. The English had already obtained, from the Emperor of Delhi, a *firman* conferring upon them the possession of five sea-coast provinces of Rajamahendri, Velur, Mustafanagar, Sikakol and Mutizanagar, otherwise known as Gantur. Nizam Ali objected to the cession of these territories and made preparations for war. The English, too, sent a large army to oppose the forces of Nizam Ali. A treaty was, however, concluded in 1765, between the Nizam and the English, by which it was agreed that the English should hold those districts but that they should in return pay annually to the Nizam the sum of 9 *lakhs* of rupees and also furnish him with military

assistance whenever required. These five districts are now known by the name of the "Northern Circars". Gantur was granted in *Jagir* to Salabat Jang and it was not then ceded to the English.

In Mysore, too, its Hindu ruler was dethroned and a Mahomedan upstart named Haidar Ali had usurped the supreme authority. A war was declared between him and the English in the year 1761. The Nizam was bribed over by Haidar Ali to his side. Colonel Smith the Commander of the English forces was obliged not only to turn back, but had to beat a precipitous retreat, which exposed him and his men to considerable hardships. At last a pitched battle was fought at Ambur in which the Nizam and Haidar Ali were completely defeated. Nizam Ali renewed his friendly negotiations with the English and a peace was finally concluded. The Nizam and the English from that time continued to remain on friendly relations with each other. On the death of Salabat Jang in 1782, the English in accordance with the past agreement asked for the cession of the Gantur district, which was readily granted them by Nizam Ali.

In 1794, a contest arose between the Nizam and the Marathas for the collection of *chauth*; the contending armies met on the field of Kharda, where, after an indecisive engagement they retired to their respective camps. The Maratha troops were, however, strengthened by timely reinforcements from Daulat Rao Sindhia and the hostilities were renewed. A fierce battle was fought on the plains of Kharda, which lasted for two days. The Nizam sustained a disastrous defeat, which might partly be ascribed to the overwhelming forces of the enemy and partly to the absence, from the battle field, of the English regiments in his employ. The vanquished had to pay to the victors a sum of 3 *crores* of rupees for defraying the expenses of the expedition and had also to cede the fortress of Doulatabad together with other territories yielding an yearly income of 35 *lakhs* of rupees. The Nizam had in his service two battalions of English soldiers, but when he took up arms against the Marathas, the English, who were on terms of intimacy with both the contending powers, did not think it politic to lend their support to the one against the other, in their internecine feuds. The Nizam was extremely offended at the deliberate absence of the British regiments, which were soon after disbanded. He employed in his service M. Raymond, a French adventurer in the best sense of the term, and raised under him a well-disciplined regiment, mainly consisting of French soldiers, adding thereto a well-manned artillery. Ali Jah, the heir-apparent to the throne of Haidarabad, rebelled against

his father, who was compelled to recall the English troops so recently dismissed. The French, however, retained as before their supremacy at the Nizam's court. It was after the death of their general, M. Raymond, that they lost their hold over Nizam Ali. Four additional English battalions were soon after enlisted in his service. He agreed to pay a monthly sum of 2 *lakhs* of rupees to meet the further charge of the British contingent. The French soldiery in his employ was from that date disbanded.

In Mysore Haidar Ali was, after his death in 1782, succeeded by his son Tipu. He carried his arms against the territories of the English and the Nizam, whereupon both these powers, entering into a league, offensive and defensive, with each other, began to attack the dominions of their common foe. He was, however, not a man to yield; the long struggle came to an end only in 1799, when in an engagement between the forces of Tipu on the one side and the combined armies of the English and the Nizam on the other, the 'Tiger of Mysore' was defeated and slain on the 4th of May 1799. Lord Wellesley on taking charge of the administration of Mysore, in his Report, wrote:—"It would have been impossible to conquer the dominions of Tipu, had it not been for the active support and co-operation of Nizam Ali!" Some portion of the territories of Mysore was restored to Krishna Raj, the son of the late king Cham Raj, who was deposed by Haidar Ali. He was reinstated on the hereditary throne, when he was only six years old. The rest of the territories conquered from Tipu were evenly distributed between the Nizam and the English. In this distribution the sea-coast districts on the west, together with Koimbtur, Vainad and the hill-fort of Dungi, fell to the lot of the English, while the Nizam obtained the districts of Gutti and Garam Konda yielding an equal amount of revenue (24,00,000 rupees).

Fresh stipulations were entered into between the English and the Nizam on 12th of October 1800. By the terms of this treaty, the Nizam bound himself to engage a further contingent of 8000 infantry, 1000 cavalry and artillery; and also agreed not to declare war with any of the powers without the previous consent of the English. The British Government on the other hand undertook to settle all differences existing between the Nizam and his foes. Those of the dominions conquered from Tipu, which had fallen to the lot of the Nizam, were ceded to the English for the purpose of defraying the military charges of these additional troops and the river Tungbhadra was fixed as the boundary line between the territories belonging to the English and those held by the Nizam. The British contingent

employed in the service of the Nizam is known by the name of 'the Hyderabad subsidiary troops'. In the year 1803, the English were engaged in a war with the Raja of the Berars, in which the Nizam rendered them valuable assistance. In recognition of this support a large portion of the territories belonging to that chief was granted to the Nizam.

Nizam Ali died in 1803, at the patriarchal age of a hundred years, leaving behind him eight sons. Of these the eldest, Ali Jah, had taken poison and died in 1792. The *masnad* was therefore occupied by the second son Sikandar Jah. He took no interest in the welfare of his subjects but lived a life of ease and retirement. The whole government was plunged into a state of miserable anarchy. On the death of Wazier Mir Alim in 1808, his place was given to his son-in-law, Munir-ul-mulk. The British Government, however, placed one of their own dependents Chandu Lal, a gentleman of the Kayastha community, at the head of the administration against the wishes of the Nizam. The supreme power thus once more directly interfered with the conduct of affairs at Hyderabad. Chandu Lal was a man of rare attainments and indefatigable energy, while the nominal Premier, Munir-ul-mulk, was in accordance with the traditional antecedents of wealthy Mahomedan nobility, hasty, rash and lazy. The whole burthen of government fell on the shoulders of his colleague, Chandu Lal. The policy of Chandu Lal, however, though advantageous to the State, was by no means calculated to safeguard the interests of the poor ryots. Colonel Malleeson writes of him:— "His method of administration was extremely primitive in theory and in action oppressive. He farmed the revenue of the several districts to middle-men. The State was thus made secure of a certain revenue without the trouble of collection, whilst the tax-payers and people were absolutely without protection. He effected a reform in the regular army. Its number was fixed at 10,244 men, divided into six regiments of infantry and four of cavalry. The regiments were clothed like the native regiments in the British service and were officered by English gentlemen and adventurers."¹

The subsequent administration of Chandu Lal, who was emboldened by the support of the British militia, and dreaded neither friend nor foe, was characterised by oppression and mismanagement. The English conquered the dominions of the Peshwa in the year 1817. The army of the Nizam had

¹ Colonel Malleeson's Historical Sketch of the Native States of India pp. 291-92.

then lent them material support, in recognition whereof, Sikandar Jah obtained a grant of territories yielding an annual income of 6,26,000 rupees. In 1820, the revenues of Haidarabad amounted to one *crore* and nine thousand rupees.

The maladministration of Chandu Lal created a strong opposition headed by the sons of the reigning Nizam. They began to thwart the measures of the Dewan, who was backed up by the British Resident; but all their endeavours were nipped in the bud, as they were, in the very commencement, reduced to the position of mere state prisoners in the hands of Chandu Lal. A banking house was established by Mr. Palmer, an English money-dealer for the purpose of lending large sums of money to the State, on the security of villages and rich tracts of land; and it had secured the support and patronage of the English Viceroy and other officials. The establishment of such a firm was in direct contravention of the terms of the treaty with the Nizam and it was finally determined to close it. It was also made a condition in the winding up of the firm that the British Government should not in the least interfere with the liquidation of its debts and outstandings. The house collapsed in 1824, and several persons suffered enormous pecuniary losses.

Nizam Sikandar Jah breathed his last on 24th of May 1829. He was succeeded by his eldest son Nasir-ud-daula, who retained Chandu Lal in the office of the Prime Minister. The revenues were farmed to persons connected with the Dewan and his whole policy was conducted on lines, which drained the State treasury to its bottom. Chandu Lal died shortly after, but his was such a capable and powerful administration that he is held in high esteem by his successors even to the present day; and the Deccan Haidarabad is still distinguished from other towns of the same name by the epithet of "Chandu Lal's Haidarabad". In 1839, one of the brothers of the Nizam created a disturbance which soon spread like wild fire throughout the province. It was, however, soon suppressed, and the rebel was taken prisoner and confined in the strong-hold of Golconda. The Nabob of Carnool, who supplied the rebel prince with ammunitions and other stores was chastised by the English Government with the confiscation of his estate. Munir-ul-mulk was, after his death in 1843, succeeded in the Dewanship by his son Siraj-ul-mulk. As stated above, an agreement had been entered into by the English with Nizam Ali in 1800, by which the latter had consented to employ in his service British contingent, consisting of 6000 foot and 9000 horse, during the time of war only. In 1807, in the reign of Sikandar Jah this arrangement was modified to the extent that the Nizam agreed

permanently to maintain the above-mentioned forces; while the task of raising and training the militia was entrusted to the English. In 1853, on adjusting accounts with the Nizam, regarding the military expenditure a large sum of 50 *lakhs* of rupees was found due from him to the English. From the account given by Captain Fraser of the great burden falling on the fisc of the Nizam for the maintenance of this subsidiary force, it appears that the Nizam had to set apart 40 *lakhs* of rupees every year exclusively for the support of the British contingent. There were 100 European officers in his employ, whose monthly stipends amounted to 80,000 rupees. The services of these battalions were to be utilized only in times of war and as peace pervaded the land since the year 1820, they were retained more for show than for any real use. The Nizam had incurred an enormous expense of 13 *crores* of rupees, without deriving the slightest benefit in return. In 1853, fresh stipulations were entered into between the Nizam and the English, by which the subsidiary contingent was reduced to 5000 foot, 2000 horse and four field batteries, to be officered and commanded by British officers. "By this treaty the Nizam, while retaining the full use of the subsidiary force and contingent, was released from the obligation of furnishing a large force in times of war; the contingent ceased to be the Nizam's army and became an auxiliary force kept up by the British Government for the Nizam's use". The annual charge was also reduced from 40 to 24 *lakhs*. For the payment of the outstanding debts and the regular disbursement of the current expenditure it was agreed to cede to the British Government, by way of security, the fertile province of the Berars. After deducting the annual expenditure from the revenues of this district, it was agreed that the surplus should be returned to the Nizam's treasury, and that a proper account should be kept and submitted to the sovereign every year. This act on the part of the British Government excited general discontent among the Mahomedan populace, especially the nobility. The coffers of the State were drained to the dregs; the revenues were farmed to influential persons, instead of being assessed by officers of the State; the poor ryots were squeezed out of their last farthing by these rapacious farmers; security of life and property was unknown and gangs of robbers infested the whole land and plundered the way-farers on the high road, in broad day light. Commerce suffered considerably owing to such a state of insecurity. The word 'Justice' had no place in the vocabulary of officers appointed to administer it; the *kazy* openly sold it to those who had the means to buy it. He had neither eyes nor ears for the poor whose grievances always remained unre-

dressed. The estates which were set apart and farmed to the *Jamadars* (military officers of rank) for the payment of the troops, under their command, were misappropriated by them; and their revenues, instead of allaying the wants of the miserable soldiery, replenished their own pockets. All the officers of the State, high or low, vied with each other in oppressing the poor ryots and in hoarding large sums of money, obtained by means of bribery or extortion. Scheming and intriguing became the order of the day, while their master, the Nizam, found no leisure to look after these things, his whole time and attention being monopolized by mean harem intrigues. While such disorders disgraced the administration of the Wazier, Siraj-ul-mulk was removed by death on 27th May 1853, and his place was filled by his nephew Sir Salar Jang, destined to raise Haidarabad to the position of the Model State in India.

Sir Salar Jang, soon after taking the helm in his hands, began to steer the state-barge clear of all rocks and sand-banks. In the first place, he by the force of his character and intellect introduced several economic reforms and effected a general retrenchment in the various departments of the State. He placed the Police force on a more efficient footing and instilled into the minds of his subjects a sense of general security. He with a firm hand put a stop to the immigration and settlement within the Nizam's dominions of the Arabs and the Rohillas, who, availing themselves of the sovereignty of their co-religionists, carried fire and sword in the very heart of the adjoining villages with impunity. Such a complete reversal of a policy, that had hitherto held its own with the Mahomedan nobility, how-so-ever beneficial it was to the State and its poor ryots, could not fail to create feelings of distrust and discontent among those who were the principal sufferers by the change. The Mahomedan Umrahs assumed an attitude of hostility and defiance towards the new premier and they even poisoned the ears of the credulous Nizam. Sir Salar Jang instantly offered to tender his resignation, but the Nizam, who was now awakened to the real state of things, entrusted the sole administration to Sir Salar Jang, with full and unfettered powers. The liberal policy adopted by the new premier proved eminently successful, inasmuch as it brought about several important reforms throughout the several branches of the administration. The revenues of the State were also enhanced and the subjects began to taste the fruits of peace and plenty.

In 1856-57, the whole country, from one end to the other, was disturbed by an upheaval, known by the name of the Indian Mutiny. Haidarabad was

the greatest and the most important of all the Native States in India. The supreme government grew apprehensive that if the fire of rebellion was once ignited there, its flames would spread as far as Bombay in the north and Madras in the south. The life and property of the English officers and settlers depended for their safety on the word and honour of the Nizam and his minister. The Governor of Bombay, at such a critical juncture, telegraphed to the British Resident at Haidarabad, that all would be lost, if the Nizam swerved even an inch from his path of loyalty to the British Crown. The Moslem was, however, true to his plighted faith and he afforded material help to the English during those troublous times. The citizens of Haidarabad, especially the mischief-mongers among them, seemed in a state of frenzy, as soon as the intelligence of a rebellion in the north reached their ears. Some of them proceeded in large crowds to the Residency and plundered it. The Nizam and his officers put them down with an iron hand and severely punished the culprits. The Arab mercenaries, in whom Sir Salar Jang always placed implicit confidence, were called to the rescue, and strong detachments of these Mahomedan soldiers were posted in the most disturbed parts of the city to preserve peace and tranquillity. They did their work so faithfully, that the British contingent, which would otherwise have had a hot work in the city, was conveniently spared to co-operate with the English forces, in the other parts of the country. The Indians in general, and the Mussalmans in particular, began to despise Sir Salar Jang for his unpatriotic conduct, but that far-sighted officer heeded them not. Some of the rabble went to the length of scheming plots for the assassination of Sir Salar Jang, but all their attempts proved futile.

During those days of constant warfare and disturbance the Nizam, Nasir-ud-Daula died (1857) and was succeeded by his son Afzul-ud-Daula. The Dewan succeeded in preserving peace in the city as well as in the province during those critical times. An English officer of high position writes:—" In those days when the English power was treading on the sharp edge of a sword, the services rendered to the Crown by Sir Salar Jang, the Prime Minister to H. H. the Nizam, were simply invaluable. If he had not scrupulously adhered to the solemn pledge plighted to the English, it is hardly possible to say now with certainty what would have become of the British *Raj* in India. "

Lord Canning on behalf of the English Government wrote, in 1859, a letter to the Nizam, conveying to him and his minister, Sir Salar

Jang, the best thanks of the British Crown, for the valuable assistance rendered by them during the time of the Indian Mutiny. Next year the same Viceroy bestowed upon the Nizam, Afzul-ud-Daula, a sum of one *lakh* of rupees and also granted him the district of Shahapur together with the *Paraganas* of Rayachor and Dharasia, till then held by the English. A debt of over 50 *lakhs* of rupees was also remitted by the supreme authority. Her Gracious Majesty the Queen was further pleased to confer upon the Nizam, Afzul-ud-Daula, and his faithful minister, Sir Salar Jang, the insignia of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India. The Dewan, in addition, received from the India Government a grant of 30,000 rupees, as a reward for his meritorious services to the English cause.

Sir Salar Jang, once more after the total suppression of the Mutiny, directed his attention to the most difficult task of introducing important reforms in the administration of the State. The nobility, as before, offered a strong opposition to all his measures. The Nizam was a weak-headed ruler and the Sardars found no difficulty in frustrating all the best works of the well-meaning Dewan. They devised several schemes for the removal of Sir Salar Jang from the head of the government. They impressed upon the mind of the credulous Nizam, that if he consulted the wishes of Colonel Davidson, the British Resident at the Court of Haidarabad, he would also give his consent to the dismissal of Sir Salar Jang. At last, in 1861, one of the discontented nobility resorted to the plan of dressing an English woman in rich apparel, and admitting her into the palace, he introduced her to the Nizam as the wife of Colonel Davidson. The pseudo-Mrs. Davidson told the chief, that if he was anxious to get rid of the ambitious minister he had better open his mind to her husband and she was sure, he would readily accede to his wishes. The Nizam, who was thus imposed upon, gave credence to what was related to him and seemed much delighted. He presented the spurious Mrs. Davidson with a rich dress of honour and sent her back to her abode with great ceremony. The next day, he obtained an interview with the Resident, to whom he expressed his desire of dispensing with the services of Sir Salar Jang. Colonel Davidson heard this with rapt attention and wonderment and at last strongly deprecated the proposal. The Nizam, too, was taken aback at the reply given by the Resident and after a few days came to understand that he was simply duped by his court-intriguers. The whole plot was in course of time revealed, and the name and position of

the woman, introduced to him as the wife of the Resident, as also the name of the Sardar, who had played such a foul trick, were all exposed. The discomfited but enraged nobility still persevered in their work of inventing new schemes for the dismissal and destruction of their inveterate foe, Sir Salar Jang. Colonel Davidson was soon after transferred from Haidarabad, and once when he and the trusted Dewan were walking hand-in-hand, conferring on some important State matters, a ruffian-looking Pathan shot at them. Fortunately the mark was missed and their lives were saved. The Pathan grew furious like a wild tiger and putting aside his gun, rushed upon the officers with a drawn sword in his hand. The surrounding men ran to their rescue and falling upon the assassin, cut him to pieces. Her Majesty the Queen, highly pleased with the devotion and loyalty of Sir Salar Jang towards the British Crown, ennobled him in 1866, with the title of the Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India.

In 1867, there again arose some difference between the Nizam and his minister and the latter at once tendered his resignation. This created a great sensation among the Native as well as the English communities, but the master and the servant were fortunately soon reconciled and everything was set right within a short time. Sir Salar Jang resumed the reins of government in his hands and carried on the administration with his usual vigour. In 1868, another conspiracy was formed for assassinating the all-powerful Dewan. On his way to the palace, he was shot at by a mussalman ruffian, but on that occasion, too, he escaped unhurt.¹

The Nizam, Afzul-ud-Daula, died, February 27, 1869, and was succeeded by his son, the present Nizam, Mir Mahabub Ali, then only four years old. Lord Mayo, the then Governor-General of India, entrusted the sole management of affairs to Sir Salar Jang and appointed under him a Council of Regency, to carry on the administration during the minority of the young Nizam. Sir Salar Jang was in fact robed with all the pomp and power of the Nizam, but, without being in the least inebriated with the excessive power vested in his hands, he conducted the government with marked skill, ability and sobriety.

¹The attempt to assassinate Sir Salar Jang was made by a Mussulman named Reghna Ali, who had long borne a grudge against the administration on account of a divorce case which had been decided against him by a district *Kazy* in strict accordance with law and justice. The escape of Sir Salar Jang was hailed with joy by the nobles and people of Haidarabad. The assassin was executed, March 21, following the attempt. Malleston pp. 295—96.

Sir Salar Jang next directed his attention towards the recovery of the fertile province of the Berars, which had been ceded to the English, in 1853, during the ministry of his uncle, Siraj-ul-Mulk, for defraying the expenses of the British contingent, stationed at Secunderabad for the protection of the Nizam's territories. He worked assiduously towards gaining his object and contrived every means to better the prospects of the ryots and enhance the revenues of the State. A large sum was set aside in the State treasury, yielding an yearly interest, sufficient to meet the expenses of the Subsidiary forces. He, afterwards, wrote to the Governor-General, Lord Northbrook, saying, that there was no longer any necessity for retaining the British contingent in the service of the Nizam, now, that peace had been established throughout the land; that the State treasury should be disencumbered of the extra burthen, with which it had been saddled and for which the district of the Berars had been made over to them. He further stated that if it appeared to the Supreme Government absolutely necessary that the Subsidiary force should be continued at Haidarabad, he held out a guarantee that the military charges would, in future, be paid out of the Royal fisc. He concluded his letter by demanding the restoration of the Berars. To this *Kharita* of the Dewan, the India Government returned no reply. Sir Salar Jang reiterated his proposals and an answer was at last sent to the effect, that as long as H. H. The Nizam was a minor and sole management was not entrusted to his care, nothing could be done in the matter of the restoration of the Berars, and the Dewan was advised not to repeat his demands any longer. Sir Salar Jang was not a man to be daunted at such a discomfiture; and he patiently awaited a more favourable opportunity.

When His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, visited India in the year 1875, the Nizam was invited to Bombay to welcome the Royal guest on his landing on these shores. The young Nizam was then keeping indifferent health and a deputation headed by Sir Salar Jang was sent from Haidarabad to do homage to the august personage. When the Dewan was formally presented to H. R. H. he recommended him to take a trip to England and make himself personally acquainted with the working of the Home Government. Sir Salar Jang, accordingly, went to England in the month of April 1876, and there, became the guest of His Grace the Duke of Sutherland, who had accompanied the Prince in his tour to India and who had formed acquaintance with the Moslem

statesman, during his short stay in this country. He was received with marked distinction in England and even Her Majesty the Queen invited him to dine with her at the Royal Palace. All the public institutions vied with each other in honoring this Indian nobleman, and the University of Oxford conferred upon him the honorary degree of the Doctor of Civil Laws. During his interview with Lord Salisbury, then Secretary of State for India, Sir Salar Jang opened the subject of the restoration of the Berars and obtained his formal sanction to again communicate with the India Government on that question. It is surmised, that it was this noble mission of obtaining back the fertile province that had induced him to undertake a voyage to the land of the rulers. He met with an unfortunate accident at Paris, on his way back to India, and received serious injuries in one of his legs from which he suffered till the last day of his life. On his return to India, he resumed his correspondence with the government of Lord Lytton, on the subject of the Berars and once more incurred the displeasure of the Viceroy.

When Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria assumed the proud title of Empress of India, a grand assemblage was held at Delhi on the first of January 1877, under the presidency of the then Viceroy, Lord Lytton. All the leading chiefs of India were invited to attend the Darbar, among whom there was also the youthful Nizam, Mahabub Ali Khan. He responded to the invitation and went there in company with his faithful minister and guardian, Sir Salar Jang. It was there resolved to present the Royal Flag to the Nizam and to confer upon both Sir Salar Jang and Amiri Kabir Samsul Umrah a salute of 17 guns. The grand-mother of the Nizam was, in 1878, honoured with the title of C. I. (Crown of India). The Nizam is a very intelligent young man and has received English education, under an officer, named Captain Clarke. He, however, has passed the greater portion of his time with his mother, Wadid-u-Nisa Begam and his grand mother, Dilawar-u-Nisa Begam.

In 1877, died Samsul Umrah who was a co-Regent with Sir Salar Jang in the administration of Haidarabad. His Excellency Lord Lytton filled the vacancy by the appointment of Vicar-ul-Umrah. He, however, died four years later, when Lord Ripon, the then Viceroy, instead of making any fresh appointment, entrusted the sole management to the surviving Regent, Sir Salar Jang. That astute minister

had by his wise and liberal policy won the hearts of his master, his subjects and the Paramount Power. He, however, was not destined to live long, and this illustrious statesman, a devoted and loyal supporter of the British power in India, was on February, 8, 1882, carried off by a virulent attack of cholera.

The Nizam, Mir Mahabub Ali Khan, was eighteen years old at the time of the death of his faithful minister. The British Government, instead of raising another nobleman to that important post, resolved to carry on the administration by a Council of Regency, until the Nizam attained the age of majority and assumed the reins of government in his own hands. Salar Jang, the eldest son of the deceased, Sir Salar Jang, was appointed Secretary to the new Council.

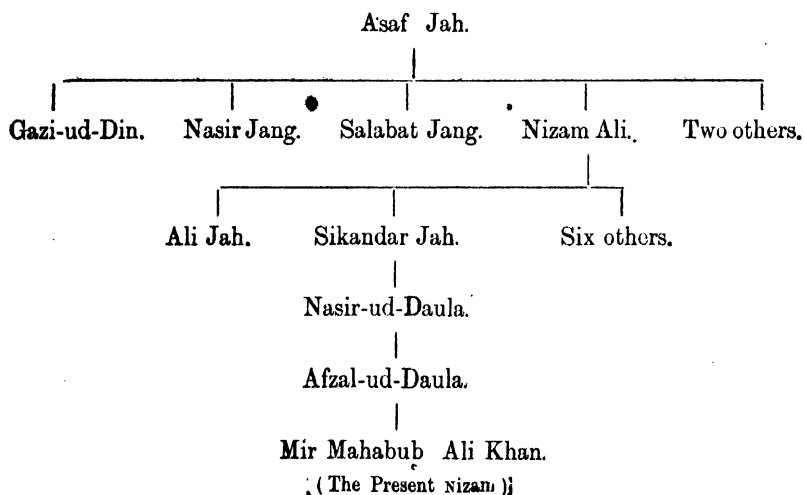
H. H. the Nizam, Mir Mahabub Ali Khan, was born in the year 1866. He owes his moral and practical training to his mother Wadid-u Nisa Begam and his grand-mother Dilawar-u-Nisa Begam. When he was deemed sufficiently qualified to carry on the government independently of British help, H. E. the Marquis of Ripon personally repaired to Haidarabad and installed him on the hereditary throne, on 5th February, 1884. The Viceroy, while performing that important and interesting function, solemnly charged, in a judicious and weighty speech, the youthful prince to conduct the government on lines laid down by his minister, Sir Salar Jang. At the close of the speech, the noble Marquis on behalf of the Queen-Empress, duly proclaimed Mir Mahabub Ali Khan sole ruler of Haidarabad and its vast territories. The Nizam in a neat, little speech, returned his most heart-felt thanks to the Viceroy and through him, to the Queen-Empress. The Representative of the British Crown then presented the Indian Chief with a lance set with diamonds and also decorated Nawab Biyakat Ali alias Salar Jang, Peshkar Narendra Prasad, and Khurshed Jah, the leading nobles of the realm, with rich swords. Peshkar Narendra Prasad is the grand-son of the famous Dewan, Chandu Lal.

On the accession of the Nizam to the throne, he appointed Salar Jang, the son of the late Sir Salar Jang, his Prime Minister. He was not long in office when a difference arose between him and Peshkar Narendra Prasad, which ended in the removal of the Dewan. He was, however, soon after, restored to that responsible post by the Nizam, but even then, he found himself beset on all sides by foul play and machinations. When the Viceroy came to

know of these intrigues, he, in the middle of 1885, summoned the Resident, Mr. Cordeaux, to his presence and put him several questions concerning the affairs at Haidarabad. The matter, however, did not rest there, and the Governor-General, with a view to amicably settle the differences existing between the Nizam and his minister, appointed in 1889 one Colonel Marshall as an adviser to H. H. the Nizam. Salar Jang resigned his Dewanship in the month of April 1887. He was, after some time, succeeded in his place by Nawab Khushir-Daula. The Nizam, in recognition of the splendid services rendered by the late Sir Salar Jang, generously resolved to pay from the State treasury all the debts of his family, which at the time of the resignation of Salar Jang 11, amounted to 20 *laks* of rupees. The young Salar was also granted a monthly pension of half his former salary, which amounted to 7500 rupees a month.

His Highness the Nizam, Mir Mahabub Ali Khan, was invested by the Grand Master with the distinguished insignia of G. C. S. I., in the year 1889. His Highness enjoys full criminal powers of life and death over his subjects and is entitled to a salute of 21 guns.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Haidarabad (Hyderabad), Southern India.

MYSORE (Maisur).

Area—24,709 sq miles. Population—4,030,331.

Revenue—about 1,02,00,000 rupees.

This principality is bounded on the north by Dharwar and Bellary; on the south by Salem and Coimbatore; on the east by Cuddapah and North Arcot; and on the west by Coorg and the Western Ghats.

The rulers of Mysore are styled Maharajas and are Rajputs of the Yadu race. Their ancestors have ruled over these regions from time out of memory. The territory of Mysore was according to a mythological legend under the sway of Sugriva. His general, Hanuman, rendered material service to Rama, the King of Ayodhya, in his invasion of Lanka or Ceylon, and the subsequent disastrous war with the demon King Ravana. The Buddhists migrated and settled there in the third century before the Christian era. The Jains are said to have ruled there for several generations and their temples and other religious relics are still to be found in some places in the province.

The northern portion of Mysore was formerly held by the Rajas of the Kadamba dynasty, and Banawasi was their principal seat of government. They reigned there till the 14th century of the Christian era when they were vanquished by the Chalukyas and reduced to the subordinate position of feudatory chiefs.

Karur was formerly the capital of the Kangu or Gangash rulers of southern Mysore, but they afterwards removed their seat of government to Talkad, a town situated on the banks of the Kaveri. They were in the 9th century destroyed by a race of people called the Cholas. Several inscriptions of these Kangu rulers have come down to us from which it appears that they also observed the Jain religion, which was given up in favour of Brahmanism by the 2nd century of the Christian era. Besides these, the eastern portion was long held by the rulers of the *Pallavas* tribe. They were also defeated by the Chalukya kings in the 7th century, but they waged a deadly war with the victors till the 10th century. The Chalukyas came from the north in the 4th century and conquered a greater portion of the Mysore territory. They gradually lost their hold over these realms and only a small portion was left in their hands by the end of the 12th century. They were at last defeated by the Ballala chiefs and their possessions were annexed to the domains already seized by the victors.

The Hoysala Ballala kings followed the Jain religion and were brave and daring warriors. They ruled at Dwarasamudra (*Dwarkavati Patan*) upto the year 1310. In that year Malik Kafur, the generalissimo of the troops of the Emperor Ala-ud-Din Khilji, invaded his realms and sacking his capital took the Ballala king prisoner. Mahomed Tughalakh, the Emperor of Delhi, sent another army after a lapse of sixteen years. These religious fanatics destroyed the ancient town of Dwarasamudra and many of its sacred temples are found in ruins even at the present day.

After the destruction of the Hoysala Ballala dynasty, another powerful Hindu kingdom was established at Vijayanagar on the banks of the Tungbhadra. This ancient city was founded by Hakka and Bukka in the year 1336. They were both employed at the court of Warangul. Hakka assumed the title of Harihara, and bequeathed to his descendants the appellation of Narsinha. They were the mortal enemies of the Mussalman kings of the Bahamani dynasty, with whom they carried on interminable war for several generations. In 1565, four of the principal Mahomedan Kings in the Deccan made a common cause against the Hindu kingdom and their combined armies marched upon Vijayanagar. A decisive battle was fought at Talikot in which the Hindu sovereign, Rama Raja, was defeated and slain. His descendants then proceeded to Penukonda and Chandragiri and there set up independent principalities. They were, however, finally overthrown and destroyed by the all-powerful Mussalmans. During the reign of the last of the Narsinha kings at Penukonda, the petty local chiefs, who were generally known by the name of *palegars*, asserted their independence and established minor chiefdoms. The principal among them were the Wodeyar of Mysore in the south, the Nayak of Keladi in the north, the Nayak of Balam (Manjarabad) in the west, and the Bedar chiefs of Chitaldrug and Tarikere.

The ancestors of the Wodeyar dynasty came to the south in very early times from Dwarka in Saurashtra or Kathiawad. Of these, two brothers, named Vijaya Raj and Krishna Raj, appear to have settled in the Ashtagram division of the Mysore dominions towards the close of the 14th century. They arrived at the village of Hadanaru from the place, on the occasion of a marriage festival in the year 1399. Slaying, with

¹ *Wodeyar* is a plural or honorific form of *Odeya*, a Kanarese word meaning 'lord' or 'master'. W. Hunter's Imperial Gazetteer of India Vol. X. P. 94.

the connivance of the bride and her relatives, the destined bridegroom, a chief of Karugali, the elder married the bride, a daughter of the local *palegar* or Baron of the village, and became the chief of a small Taluka in the west of the Karnatick, consisting simply of two hill-forts and a few villages. One of his descendants, called Yedu Raya, who succeeded Vijaya Raj, ruled over this country upto 1422. He was succeeded by Hari Betad Cham Raj, Timma Raj and Hari (or Arberal). Cham Raj—Arberal meaning six-fingered, in allusion to a physical peculiarity. This chief inherited the patrimony in the year 1507. The six-fingered Raja was after his death succeeded by his son Hari Betad Cham Raj II. He in 1524, divided his small estate into three parts and assigned one to each of his three sons. The youngest Cham Raj, surnamed the Bald, obtained the fort of Puragere with its neighbouring villages. He put the hill-fort of Puragere in a state of repairs and changing its old name gave it the high-sounding appellation of *Mahish-Asur*, 'the buffalo-headed monster'. The modern name Maisur or Mysore is a mere contraction of this grandiloquent epithet. The Purans state that some such demon was destroyed by Chamunda Devi and she is still worshipped as the tutelary goddess of the Maharajas of Mysore.

Cham Raj, the Bald, was thus the first recognised chief of Mysore. In 1564-65, the Hindu kingdom of Vijayanagar was destroyed by the four Mussalman sovereigns of Daulatabad, Bijapur, Golconda and Bidar. The petty chief of Mysore reaped many advantages from the down-fall of this mighty principality. He encroached upon many of the villages under Vijayanagar and enhanced the territorial extent of his dominions. After the fall of Vijayanagar the surviving prince fled and established himself at Seringapatam. He was a weak and impotent ruler and none but the shrewd Hira Cham Raj, the successor of Cham Raj the Bald, could divine his inherent frailty. He at once eluded the payment of tribute, raised strong hill-forts, insolently dismissed the officers sent by his liege-lord to collect the tribute and openly defied the authority of the sovereign. In 1576, several acquisitions were made to the principality of Mysore. In the same year died Hira Cham Raj, who had lost his only son during his life time. He was succeeded by his grandson Betad Wodeyar, who added to his domains the stronghold of Hemunkali and several small villages in its vicinity.

Betad Wodeyar was after his death succeeded by his brother Raj

Wodeyar. This prince was gifted with rare intelligence. He added considerably to the extent of his territories. In 1609, he conquered the fortress of Kembala and Seringapatam, formerly known as Shri Ranga Pattan, or the city of the sacred Ranga, where the vanquished sovereign of Vajayanagar had taken up his residence. From this date Seringapatam became the capital of the State of Mysore. The rulers of Mysore followed the Jangam faith, but, after the conquest of Seringapatam they embraced the Vaishnava creed. Raj Wodeyar died in the year 1617, leaving behind him a great name. The territories of Mysore were considerably enlarged in his reign and he attained the rank of a first class chief among the Hindu rulers of the Deccan.

Raj Wodeyar was succeeded by his grandson Cham Raj Wodeyar. He ruled for 20 years, during which period he conquered several villages and added them to his dominions. He was very lenient towards his fallen foes. When he died in 1637, his uncle Imadi Raj, the son of Raj Wodeyar ascended the throne of Mysore. He was poisoned, after a reign of eighteen months, by his minister and was succeeded by Kantireva Narsa Raj. He was as brave a warrior as his predecessors. He is said to have been endued with superhuman strength and it is told of him that he repaired to the court of Trichinopoli and challenged a well-known wrestler to fight a duel with him. He vanquished the court-warrior and cut him to pieces, and then returned to his capital. He also killed the minister, who had poisoned his predecessor, and who was caught in a similar attempt against his own life too. He defeated the king of Bijapur, who had invested the fortress of Seringapatam, and pursuing his troops slew many of their number. He obtained a splendid victory over the chief of Magri and enhanced his domains towards Vijayanagar and Madura. He was the first to open a mint in his capital. Kantireva Narsa Raj died in 1659, and was succeeded by his adopted son Dud¹ Deva Raj. He also like his ancestors encroached upon several villages owing allegiance to the neighbouring petty chiefs and enlarged the extent of his own State. The chief of Badnur had the boldness to invade his dominions, but he was defeated and repulsed. He also vanquished the Nayak of Madura. He breathed his last in the year 1672, just about the time when the French power in its infancy was struggling with its early difficulties in a corner of the Karnatick.

¹ Dud, in the language of Mysore, signifies 'great'; Chikka 'little'; or senior and junior.—Wilks.

This period may be looked upon as one of surpassing interest in the annals of Mysore, for it was then, that the State was gradually extending its dimensions, and beginning to assert its status as an important power in Southern India. Till then, its sturdy rulers, bent upon a policy of self-aggrandisement, had but little leisure or inclination to taste of the sweets of royalty. The desire to enlarge the boundaries of the State had been like a hereditary instinct in the hearts of its rulers, bequeathed from the devoted sire to the patriotic son, and it had boundless influence in shaping their course of conduct during the time they ruled over its destinies. Their anxiety for cementing their conquests was manifested by their eagerness to win the hearts of the conquered foes. The ryots of the subdued territories being rated at a heavier assessment than their own vassals, the real difficulties of the task of government were, however, yet to commence. The State, owing to its increasing magnitude was beginning to attract general notice. It was surrounded on all sides by mighty rivals, who could at any moment combine to deal a death-blow to the rising State. The Mahomedan power in Southern India, had at this time reached its climax. The Moslem's Crescent not only waved over the Deccan proper, but even the Karnatick in the east and Bijapur in the west, owed fealty to the Islamite sceptre. The Mahomedans had fixed their eyes even on the conquest of Trichinopoli. On the other hand the Marathas were fast rising into power, destined one day to eclipse all the rival potentates in the Deccan, Hindu or Mahomedan. Mysore had these insurmountable obstacles to overcome in her path to future greatness.

Dud Dev Raj was, in 1672, succeeded by Chikka Dev Raj. It was for this monarch to witness the rise of the Marathas into a formidable power. Sivaji, their great chieftain, had reduced the important posts of Ginji and Vellore; the states of Bijapur and Golconda had been pressed hard by his arms; and the domains of Tanjore had been overrun and subdued by his daring soldiers. Mysore, however, had no immediate apprehension of an attack from the victorious army of Sivaji, for it lay too far south of the direct line of his operations and its ruler was by no means anxious to provoke an attack and thereby drag ruin and misery to the homes of his own subjects. The Raja devoted himself, for the time, to the task of bringing the internal administration of the State under a more satisfactory order, while at the same time he did not fail to keep a vigilant eye on the frontier, ready to avail himself of any opportunity for aggression. He only took care to do it stealthily so as to elude general observation and thereby avert

the impending danger from his head. At this time the Raja established a Post Office, apparently for the transmission of letters and messages, but in reality his secret motive was to obtain for himself a knowledge of their contents, which knowledge he subsequently employed to promote his scheme of erecting himself into the central power in the State. He forced his feudatory chiefs and other magnates of the State to renounce the title of 'Raja,' which was now reserved for the sovereign alone. These grandees were compelled to fix their abode in the city of Seringapatam, and were converted from rebellious rivals into obsequious courtiers. His desire to repress the feudal and quasi-independent rights of the landlords bears a marked analogy to the policy of Richlieu—the great minister of Louis XIII, of France. This farseeing and wise diplomacy was, however, not manifest in all his actions. His policy of collecting land revenue was calculated to estrange the hearts of the poor ryots from the king's person. He imposed a variety of obnoxious taxes on the cultivators, with a view of inducing them to pay a larger amount of revenue as the price of exemption from the most objectionable of those imposts. Remission from these burdens was only accorded to lands granted for military service, as a matter of policy. These provoking taxes, which, if enforced in Bengal, would have been occasions for serious riots and formidable revolts, only excited passive resistance on the part of the mild and law-abiding subjects of Mysore. But even this humble protest on the part of the people met with dire revenge on the part of the prince, who was generally regarded as one of the most enlightened and liberal rulers of Mysore. The monstrously oppressive way, which he adopted to disarm opposition and to silence all murmur of discontent, was one worthy of a tyrant like the inhuman Nero, or the heartless Attila. It is to be borne in mind that the occasion which called forth such an infernal engine of human destruction was but a trifling incident; it was no deep laid plot, no far-reaching insurrection. It was simply this—"That the children of the soil, crushed by the multifarious taxes, which interfered with their sowing, their gathering into store and the selling of the produce of their fields, suspended their inverted ploughs at the gates of their villages, and generally announced their intention to emigrate from a land which denied them the fruits of their labour." They would not submit to the vexatious conditions proposed and a majority of them talked of peacefully retiring from their native land. The cry for revenge was

very faint, yet it was sufficient to arouse the fears of Chikka Dev Raj, who was too conscious of the value of these cultivators to himself and his *Raj* to allow them thus to depart in peace. The harrowing tale of the disaster that followed may best be related in the words of Colonel Wilks. "An invitation was sent to all the priests of the Jangam to meet the Raja at the great temple of Nanjangod, about 14 miles south of Mysore, ostensibly to converse with him on the subject of the refractory conduct of their followers. Treachery was apprehended, and the number which assembled was estimated at about four hundred only. A large pit had been previously prepared in a walled enclosure, connected by a series of squares composed of tent-walls with the canopy of audience, at which they were successively received, one at a time, and after making their obeisance, they were desired to retire to a place, where, according to custom, they expected to find refreshments prepared at the expense of the Raja. Expert executioners were in waiting at the square, and every individual in question was so skilfully beheaded, and tumbled into the pit, as to give no alarm to those who followed; and the business of the public audience went on without interruption or suspicion".

This inhuman massacre of the priests was followed by the equally ruthless slaughter of their poor disciples and the cultivators. A detachment of horse was posted at every place, where a mob had assembled, and orders were given to charge the populace without any mercy. A man clad in an orange robe—which was the emblematic colour of the Jangam priests, was to be the first object of the king's vengeance. The insurgent crowds were to be given no quarter and the work of shedding blood was not to cease till all the crowds had been dispersed. The Raja thus succeeded in silencing all opposition and the owners of land were all coerced in to passing a deed of renunciation by which they abandoned rights of private property in their lands and recognised the Sovereign's right therein as absolute. This bloody episode represents how a king could intimidate his ignorant subjects into a surrender of their proprietary rights in the soil, a subject on which they are always keenly sensitive. A fight between the prince's prerogative and the people's privilege was surely to end in a triumph for the former in the days of Chikka Dev Raj.

At this period Sivaji died; Aurangzeb invaded the Deccan; the Mahomedan kingdoms of Bijapur and Golconda were reduced by the arms of the great Murkal. and his resources were put into requisition for the sole purpose

of crushing the rising power of the Marathas. During this quick succession of events the Mughal power rose to its zenith, and was regarded as the Paramount Power throughout the length and breadth of India. It was at this juncture that the rulers of Mysore came into contact with the rival potentates contesting for supremacy in Southern India. The Maratha chief of Bangalore grew apprehensive of the impending struggle and feared that the destruction of his small principality would inevitably follow in the general scramble for territorial possessions. He was anxious to purchase his own safety even with the loss of his kingdom and when the Raja of Mysore offered to buy up his holding for a sum of three *lakhs*, the offer was willingly accepted. The Mahomedan troops, however, anticipated the movement and themselves seized the district of Bangalore. They were, however, willing to cede the district to Mysore, on condition of receiving for themselves, the stipulated purchase-money. The Raja made a common cause with the Mughals and with their alliance he succeeded in enriching his own dominions by territorial acquisitions, made at the expense of the neighbouring Maratha chiefs and the Raja of Badnur. The Mughals, however, were no faithful allies of Mysore, for they subsequently turned their arms against that State. A Mahomedan army invaded the Kingdom and it was only driven out by the combined efforts of the populace and the heroic son of the King, who performed feats of valour and stratagem on that occasion. It was about this time that the rulers of Mysore, hitherto regarded only as *Zamindars*, received from the Emperor Aurangzeb a recognition to sit on an ivory throne on state occasions. Colonel Wilks informs us that the throne constructed at this period was ever subsequently used at the installation ceremonies of the succeeding Rajas. "It is the same, which, in the year 1799, was found in a lumber room of Tipu Sultan's palace, was employed in the installation of the present Raja, and is always used by him on occasions of public ceremony."

Chikka Dev Raj died in 1704; during his reign he added thirteen important districts to his territories, and obtained from the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb the recognition of himself as a sovereign prince independent of all but the Mughal.

The dynasty which had ruled over Mysore for the past 200 years, and raised it from a small zamindari to the dignity of a kingdom, now suffered a gradual decline. Chikka Deva Raj was after his death succeeded by Kantireva Raj, who was unfortunately born deaf and dumb. He was

void of all the necessary qualifications of a great ruler. He was after his death in 1713, succeeded by Dud Krishna Raj. He was also weak and inefficient, and the sole authority in the State was usurped by his two ministers Deva Raj and Nanja Raj. "Whatever portion of vigour or wisdom appeared in the conduct of this reign," says Wilks, "belonged exclusively to the ministers, who secured their own authority by appearing with affected humility to study in all things the inclinations and wishes of the Raj. Weak and capricious in his temper, he committed the most cruel excesses on the persons and property of those who approached him, and as quickly restored them to his favour. While no opposition was made to the establishment of an almost incredible absurdity, amounting to a *lakh* of rupees annually for the maintenance of an alms-house to feed beasts of prey, reptiles, and insects, he believed himself to be an unlimited despot; and while amply supplied with the means of sensual pleasure, to which he devoted the largest portion of his time, he thought himself the greatest and happiest of monarchs, without understanding or caring to understand, during a reign of nineteen years, the troublesome details through which he was supplied with all that is necessary for animal gratification." His ministers acknowledged his sovereignty as long as he was alive. He died in 1731, after an inglorious reign of 18 years. He was succeeded by Harinentu Tingal Cham Raj. The two abovenamed ministers continued to defy the authority of the new Raja, who instantly dismissed them and employed in their stead his own partisans. Deva Raj flew into an open rebellion and taking advantage of the king's absence, took possession of the royal palace and won over the soldiery to his side. The king on his return was taken prisoner and confined till his death in the most unhealthy climes of the Kabaldurg hills. He, shortly after, died there of insalubrious climate and unwholesome food.

The dethronement of Harinentu Tingal Cham Raj was the first step towards the subsequent down-fall of his house. Though the throne of Mysore was occupied by one of his descendants, yet he was a mere ruler in name, the real power resting with his Hindu and Mahomedan Sirdars, who hardly allowed the chief to cross even the threshold of his palace. Deva Raj and Nanja Raj I., formally installed Chikka Krishna Raj on the hereditary throne as a nominal sovereign. Nanja Raj I., however, did not live long to enjoy the sweets of his high office. He died shortly after, and a few month later Dost Ali, the Nawab of the Karnatick, led his troops against Mysore, but he was repulsed by Deva Raj. He then conferred the command of his troops upon his younger brother, also named Nanja Raj. It was this Nanja Raj II., who took

into his service a Mussalman Sepoy named Haidar Ali, then only 30 years old.

Haidar Ali was the son of Fateh Mahomed and grand-son of Mahomed Bhelol who had originally come down from the Panjab and built a small mosque near Haidarabad. In 1755, Salabat Jang, the Viceroy of the Deccan, with the help of the French General, M. Bussy, invaded Seringapatam, and Dev Raj had to sue for peace by the offer of a large sum of 56,00,000 rupees. Similarly when the Marathas invaded Seringapatam in 1757 Nanja Raj obtained peace by the cession of a small portion of the Mysore dominions. The two brothers Deva Raj and Nanja Raj did not pull on well together for a long time. Deva Raj left the capital taking with him his accumulated wealth and Nanja Raj assumed supreme authority in the State. Haidar Ali watched with keen interest the result of the family feud between the two brothers. Nanja Raj had entrusted to his care a portion of the Mysore territory and this added materially to his power and influence. Both the puppet king and Nanja Raj styled Haidar Ali as 'Fateh Haidar Bahadur.' The ambitious Muslim now openly took up a defiant attitude and formed a strong party of his own. Nanja Raj was yet too powerful to allow him to usurp the supreme authority in the State. Haidar Ali therefore began to devise schemes to get rid of his Hindu antagonist. He at last succeeded and Nanja Raj was obliged to leave Seringapatam, and take up his abode at Kuvur, 25 miles from the capital. From that date Haidar Ali became the first man in the realm, but it was not till 1760 that he assumed the reins of government in his own hands as the king *de facto* of Mysore.

When Chikka Krishna Raj died in 1766, Haidar Ali acknowledged the nominal supremacy of his son and gave him all the respect due to his high station. But when he learnt that the youthful prince was endeavouring to regain his lost power, he refused to pay the sum stipulated for his maintenance, plundered all the paraphernalia in the palace, with the exception of the ornaments worn by the Rani, reduced the number of his household and placed his own men in their stead. Five years later when Haidar Ali's situation became for a time a little precarious, the Hindu prince carried on negotiations with the Marathas to regain his lost throne. Haidar Ali on being informed of the prince's intentions caused him to be strangled and placed his brother Cham Raj on the throne.

The English for the first time formed an alliance with Haidar Ali in 1763 for the establishment of free commerce between the two powers. Of all the enemies of the British rule in India, Haidar Ali was the most powerful and inveterate. He after assuming the regal authority carried on his aggressions against the neighbouring chiefs. He conquered Chitaldrug and Badnur. His territory was invaded by Madhav Rao Peshwa at the head of a large army. The Marathas carried on pillage in the very heart of Mysore and sacked many of its villages. Haidar Ali's arms met with reverses in the several battles he fought with the Peshwa. At last the Moslem was forced to cede to Madhav Rao a portion of his realms together with thirty-two *lakhs* of rupees in hard cash, and the Brahman chief retired to his capital loaded with rich booty. Haidar Ali then marched upon Calicut and conquered it. The Nizam, too, through the influence of his co-religionist broke the bond of alliance hitherto existing between him and the English, and coalescing with Haidar Ali, attacked the Karnatick. His army was, however, defeated, and by the treaty of 1768, the Nizam deserting the cause of Haidar Ali, entered into an alliance offensive and defensive with the British Government.

In 1769 Haidar Ali invaded the British possession of Fort St George, and the English garrison, startled by the overwhelming strength of their opponent and fearing that in the event of any resistance being offered he would inevitably conquer and plunder the city and mercilessly put them to the sword, sued for peace at any price. Madhav Rao Peshwa again invaded Mysore in the year 1770. Haidar Ali, in accordance with the terms of the treaty concluded between him and the English on the 3rd of April 1769, besought the assistance of the English against the Maratha invaders, which was peremptorily refused. Haidar Ali had posted a detachment of his troops, under the command of his son Tipu, on the outskirts of Badnur to cut off the supply of provisions conveyed to the Maratha hosts from their native land, the Maharashtra. The Marathas, overtaking Haidar Ali in the month of February 1771, completely overthrew and destroyed his army. Haidar Ali endeavoured his utmost to avert a hand-to-hand fight with his antagonists but failed. At length he was compelled to conclude a most humiliating treaty with the victors. By its terms he was forced to cede to the Marathas 13 of his districts and twenty-five *lakhs* of rupees in cash. Haidar Ali, however, taking advantage of the dissensions raging shortly after in the family of the Peshwa, reconquered all his possessions.

Cham Raj breathed his last in 1775. He was the last male member of the ancient family of the Hindu kings of Mysore and with him, it may be said, that the Hindu house became, for all practical purposes, extinct for the time. The caprice of Haidar willed, however, that there should be a pageant Prince, under whose cover he would reign supreme, and for this purpose he set upon himself the task of finding out a successor. Colonel Wilks gives the following detailed description of the way in which he rejected the nearest kinsman in the line, a daughter's son, and fixed his choice upon a distant heir, who best suited his purpose.

"About this period" he writes, 'the pageant Raja Cham Raj died; Haidar had hitherto professed to hold Mysore in behalf of the Hindu house; and amused his subjects on every annual feast of the Dasahra by exhibiting the pageant, seated on his ivory throne in the balcony of State; himself occupying the place of minister and commander-in-chief. This ceremonial, in most countries, would have excited feelings dangerous to the usurper; but the unhappy Hindus saw their country everywhere sustaining the scourge of Mahomedan rule; the singular exception of the Maratha State, a wide-spreading example of still more ruthless oppression, restrained their natural preference for rulers of their own persuasion; and they were soothed with occasional condescension which treated them and their institutions with a resemblance of respect. Haidar saw and indulged the working of these reflections, and determined to have another pageant. The lineal male succession was extinct, and he ordered all the children to be collected from the different branches of the house, who, according to ancient precedent, were entitled to furnish a successor to the throne. The ceremonial observed on this occasion, however childish, was in perfect accordance with the feelings which he intended to delude, and sufficiently adapted to the superstition of the fatalist. The hall of audience was strewed round with fruits, sweetmeats and flowers, play-things of various descriptions, arms, books, male and female ornaments, bags of money, and every varied object of puerile or manly pursuit; the children were introduced together, and were all invited to help themselves to whatever they liked best; the greater number were quickly engaged in a scramble for the fruits, sweetmeats, and toys; but one child was attracted by a brilliant little dagger, which he took up in his right hand, and soon afterwards a lime in his left. "That is the Raja," exclaimed Haidar, "his first care is military protection; his second to realise the produce of his dominions; bring him hither, and let me embrace him." The assembly was in an universal murmur

of applause; and he ordered the child to be conducted to the Hindu palace, and prepared for installation. He was of the same name as his predecessor, viz., Cham Raj, and was the father of the present (late Krishna Raj) Raja, who was placed by the English at the head of the Hindu house of Mysore on the subversion of the Mahomedan dynasty in 1799.

The enraged Moslem, to wreak his vengeance on the English for their refusing to help him in the late war with the Marathas in direct contravention of the treaty of 1769, collected a large army and marching against the Karnatick, seriously crippled the power of the English in the Deccan. In 1782, Tipu dealt a heavy blow to the English arms on a field of battle. Haidar Ali expired at the old age of 80 on the 7th of December 1782. At the time of his demise his son and heir Tipu was fighting the Bombay contingent off the Malabar Coast. As soon as the intelligence of his father's death reached him he turned back and took possession of the throne. Tipu Sultan was like his father one of the most powerful native chiefs then ruling in the country. He had pillaged and burnt several villages in the vicinity of Madras, when he was only 17 years old and had fought many a battle with the English, the Nizam and the Marathas. Tipu marched to give battle to the British contingent that had set out from Bombay. Notwithstanding this opposition the Bombay contingent succeeded in reducing the town of Badnur. Tipu then marched towards Manglore at the head of a large army and fought an indecisive engagement with Colonel Campbell. At last both sides agreed upon a cessation of hostilities. Another detachment of the English army conquered Koimbtur with its adjoining villages and was making preparations to march upon the capital when the Madras Government entered into a very discreditable alliance with their inveterate foe.

Haidar Ali had conquered the province of Coorg in the year 1782, but, its inhabitants had subsequently thrown off their allegiance to the Mysore rule. Tipu marched against them at the head of a large army and enforced their submission. The Governor, placed there by Tipu, committed an outrage upon a respectable lady and the infuriated citizens rose into rebellion against the ruling authority. The wild Tiger of Mysore led a vast army against them and rendering the whole country desolate forced the survivors to embrace Islamism.

Tipu was as arrogant as he was brave. The Peshwa and the Nizam, to humble his pride entered into a league and invaded his dominions in 1786. Tipu was compelled to appease them by immediately paying them 35 lakhs of rupees and agreeing to pay later on a further sum of fifteen lakhs. Besides

this he also surrendered to them certain portions of his territories. Tipu then directed his arms towards Travancore. He invaded it in 1786, but was baffled in the attempt and had to return to his capital after suffering a heavy loss both in men and money. Without being in the least disconcerted, he made preparations for another attack on Travancore on a more gigantic scale. The chief of Travancore was an ally of the English, who now resolved to invade the territory of Mysore with the help of their other allies, the Nizam and the Peshwa. A detachment of English troops under Colonel Meadows led the attack from the direction of Koimbtur. It reduced many of the hill-forts and villages under Mysore and at last marched upon the capital. Tipu offered them a strong resistance but had to turn back defeated.

In 1791, Lord Cornwallis the Governor-General of India led in person a powerful army against Tipu. He entered Mysore and proceeded towards Bangalore. Tipu hastened to its defence, but, was defeated and the town fell into the hands of the English. The victors then triumphantly marched upon Seringapatam and a decisive battle was fought on the plains of Arikeri in which also the arms of Tipu sustained a signal defeat. In 1792, Lord Cornwallis obtaining the assistance of the Nizam and the Marathas, again invaded the capital of Tipu. The Tiger now beset on all sides, and failing in all his attempts at resistance, sued for peace. He agreed to cede half of his territories to the invaders and to pay a sum of three *crores* and thirty *laks* of rupees to meet the charges of the expedition. He also gave his consent to the humiliating condition of sending two of his sons as hostages to the British Camp.

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At this critical juncture the nominal king Cham Raj, who was still surviving Haidar Ali, died in 1795. He was kept a close prisoner in his palace upto the day of his death. On the occurrence of that event, Tipu determined no longer to continue the farce of a pageant ruler. The late Raja left behind him an infant son about two years old, yet Tipu mercilessly plundered his palace and carried away the ornaments of the baby prince, his mother and all his other relations. He then turned them all out of the palace and assigned them a hovel for their dwelling place.

Convulsed with rage and smarting under the pain of the above-mentioned disgraceful treaty with the English, Tipu entered into negotiations with the Emperor of France and the Amir of Afghanistan to lend him their support in the Herculean task of conquering the English dominions, and extirpating their whole race from the land. A British army under General Harris was soon despatched from Vellore to invade his dominions. Fierce

battles were fought on the fields of Seedasir, and Malvelli in which Tipu's army was defeated and put to the rout. He then retreated towards his capital, overrunning on his way rich tracts of land. The Tiger was bearded in his den, and Seringapatam was beleaguered on all sides by the gallant General. Tipu bravely defended his palace to the last, when in an engagement with the enemies he fell on the 4th of May 1799.

Thus terminated the dreadful war with Mysore. The Nizam and the English distributed among themselves the conquered territories. A rich share of the booty was also set apart for the Peshwa, but on his declining to accept it, it was also divided between the remaining allies, the English and the Nizam. A greater portion of them yielding an yearly income of 1,374,000 *Pagodas* was restored to Krishna Raj Wodeyar who was, on the capture of Seringapatam, on May 4, 1799, found dwelling in a miserable hut. The sons of Tipu who were retained as hostages in the English Camp were on the close of the war sent first to Vellore and thence to Calcutta.

When Prince Krishna Raj Wodeyar was found by Lord Wellesley dwelling with his mother and other relations in a hovel, he was only six years old. Sir Barry Close, an English officer of high repute, was appointed Resident of Mysore. Purnaiya, a daring Brahman, was created prime minister to carry on the administration during the minority of the young prince. He remained at the head of the government from 1799 to 1810. His administration was marked with cruelty and oppression and by the end of 1811, he hoarded in the State treasury such an enormous sum as seventy-five *laks* of *Pagodas* amounting to nearly two *crores* of British rupees.

The young prince, as he advanced in years, wished to free himself from the shackles of his over-bearing minister. In 1811, he expressed to the Resident his desire to assume the reins of government in his own hands. Purnaiya taking umbrage, tendered his resignation in 1812, and the prince thence forth became his own minister. The Brahman thus disgraced fled to Seringapatam, where he died after a few days.

The treasury was full when the Hindu chief assumed the government in his own hands. He, however, turned out a spend-thrift; the whole mass of hoarded wealth was squandered away within a few years, and the State was reduced to the verge of bankruptcy. He made several vain attempts to secure the services of a competent adviser. He was a pleasure-seeking and frivolous youth, and howsoever intelligent and shrewd he was, he had not the necessary qualifications of a successful ruler. The State suffered considerably under his

management. In less than a couple of years after his assuming the direction of affairs, the Resident reported to the Supreme Government that the prince had squandered away all the treasure hoarded by Purnaiya and that the State was verging on to bankruptcy. The Resident in vain expostulated with the prince to curtail his thoughtless expenditure. High offices in the State were sold by public auction, and given to the highest bidder; while the subjects were oppressed by the crushing system of 'Sharti.' The Ryots groaned under the heavy weight of taxation and the people of Nagar Bhaga, a district not forming part of Haidar Ali's domains, broke into open revolt against the ruling authority in 1830. The *Paligars* assuming independence chose for their leader an adventurous upstart who was dispossessed of his holdings by Haidar Ali. The king despatched an army against these insurgents and though its arms were successful in several engagements, the revolt was not completely suppressed. The prince at length sought the assistance of the English and by their help he succeeded in putting down the rebels.

The Governor-General appointed a Committee to enquire into the causes of the maladministration at Mysore. They reported that the subjects were highly displeased with the gross injustice of their ruler; the State revenues had undergone a considerable diminution; and that disorder and tyranny reigned supreme throughout the land. The Governor-General thereupon addressed a letter to the Raja deprecating in strong terms his mismanagement of the State, reminding him of the conditions under which the throne was restored to him and specially directing his attention to the gross injustice and oppression that characterised his reign. The letter given below is transcribed from Colonel Malleon's book on Native States of India. Lord William Bentinck, the Governor-General at the time, went on to say:—

" I have in consequence felt it to be indispensable, as well with reference to the stipulations of the treaty above quoted, as from a regard to the obligations of the protective character which the British Government holds towards the State of Mysore, to interfere for its preservation, and to secure the various interests at stake from further ruin. It has seemed to me that in order to do this effectually, it will be necessary to transfer the entire administration of the country into the hands of British officers, and I have accordingly determined to nominate the Commissioners for the purpose, who will proceed immediately to Mysore.

1 'Sharti' was a contract made by the Amildar that he would realise for the government a certain amount of revenue; that if his collections should fall short of that amount he would make good the deficiency, and that if they exceeded it, the surplus should be paid to the government. Malleon's Native States of India P. 316.

" I now, therefore, give to Your Highness the formal and final notice, and I request Your Highness to consider this letter in that light—that is, as the notice required by the treaty to be given to Your Highness of the measure determined upon for the assumption and management of the Mysore territory in the case stipulated. I beg of Your Highness, therefore, to issue the requisite orders and proclamations to the officers and authorities of Mysore, within ten days from the date when this letter may be delivered to Your Highness, for giving effect to the transfer of the territory and investing the British Commissioners with full authority in all departments, so as to enable them to proceed to take charge and carry on affairs as they have been ordered, or may be here after instructed."

The Viceroy thus appointed Commissioners to put a stop to the misgovernment reigning at Mysore, and order the Raja to hand over the administration to their care. He accordingly in 1831, peacefully surrendered the sole management of the State to the British Government and was allotted from the treasury an yearly sum of a *lakh* of *Pagodas* for his personal expenditure. He thenceforward took up his abode in a palace at Mysore. Two Commissioners were appointed by the India government to conduct the affairs of the State. Of these the senior officer was appointed by the Viceregal Government, while the appointment of the junior, rested with the Government of Madras. The former held a casting vote and was vested with all the powers of a Raja, whilst the junior (*Dewan*) simply assisted him in his work.

The appointment of such a *Dewan* was continued till the year 1834. These Commissioners were under the direct control of the Madras Government till 1832, when they were placed under the Supervision of the India Government. They generally differed on matters of grave importance and the system did not work well. At last on the 28th of April 1834, Colonel Morrison was appointed sole Commissioner of Mysore. When the English first assumed the direction of affairs at Mysore, the Supreme Government had specially instructed the Madras Government to appoint a Council solely consisting of Native Officials of note to assist the British Commissioners in the conduct of State affairs. This arrangement received the sanction of the Hon'ble Board of Directors by their letter of the 25th September 1825. The work of administering justice was delegated to this Committee, though the power of passing sentence was not vested in their hands. Their function corresponded with that of our modern jury, which consisted simply in

passing a verdict of guilty or not guilty against the prisoners brought before them for trial. It solely rested with the king to punish the culprit found guilty by the aforesaid Committee; but as the chief did not like to stir out of his palace the State prisons were often over-crowded by these unfortunate victims.

The Commissioner appointed in 1834 was unable to remove all these defects single-handed, and it was resolved to appoint four European Superintendents in the place of Native Fouzdars. The Judicial power was still left in the hands of the Native Judges who sat in the Supreme Court, but they (Huzur Adalat) were ordered to obtain the sanction of the Commissioner before passing sentence on any of the culprits. This cumbrous mode of administering justice, was soon done away with, and a judicial Commissioner was appointed in theirstead.

The post of Resident was abolished in the year 1843. General (afterwards Sir Mark) Cubbon, who succeeded Col Morrison as Commissioner of Mysore, held that place till 1861. The State revenues were considerably enhanced during his administration. He abolished several iniquitous cesses such as those levied on marriage, incontineny, child birth, and on occasions of naming and shaving the infant. He divided the whole year into five parts corresponding with five seasons, for facilitating the assessment of land-revenue.

The pensioned prince resided at Mysore until his death in 1868. Though he had no voice in the conduct of the government, a fifth share of the State revenues was set apart for his use. Maharaja Krishna Raj Wodeyar was decorated with the insignia of G.C.S.I. He in the month of June 1865 adopted a scion of one of the principal families of his house. The adopted child on his accession to the throne assumed the name of Cham Rajendra. In April 1867 the British Government accorded their formal sanction to the adoption and acknowledged him as heir to the Mysore throne. Cham Rajendra Wodeyar was crowned King of Mysore at the age of six years, nearly six months after the death of his predecessor Krishna Raj Wodeyar.

Even after the accession of His Highness Cham Rajendra Wodeyar, the administration of Mysore was conducted by British officials owing to the minority of the newly acknowledged Maharaja. In 1869, an English Officer was appointed as tutor to the young prince to equip him with all the necessary qualifications for the proper discharge of the duties of his

exalted position. He was removed from the palace at Mysore in which the late king lay confined till his death, to a better furnished residence. His school was also located in one of the palaces situated in the healthiest locality in Mysore. The sons of the leading nobles of the realm were also invited to attend this school as companions to the young Maharaja. Cham Rajendra commenced his education at the early age of six years and a half.

On his accession, the Government of India issued the following proclamation:—

‘H. H. Cham Rajendra Wodeyar Bahadur, at present a minor, the adopted son of the late Maharaja, is acknowledged by the Government of India as his successor and as Maharaja of the Mysore territories.

• ‘During the minority of His Highness the said territories will be administered in His Highness’s name by the British Government and will be governed on the same principles and under the same regulations as heretofore.

‘When H. H. shall attain the period of majority, that is the age of 18 years, and if His Highness shall then be found qualified for the discharge of the duties of his exalted position, the government of the country will be entrusted to him, subject to such conditions as may be determined at that time.’

When His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Heir-apparent to the British Empire, placed his foot on the shores of India on 8th of November, 1875, the young chief of Mysore was one of those who cordially welcomed the Royal Guest on his visit to this—the brightest gem in the British diadem. His Royal Highness was struck with the intelligence of the beaming boy and warmly shook hands with him. Next day in the grand Assemblage held for the reception of the Native Princes who had flocked to Bombay to pay their respects to the Royal personage, the young Wodeyar was received with marks of special favour. On 10th November 1875, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales paid a return visit to the young Maharaja. On the assumption by Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria of the proud title of Empress of India, a stately Darbar was held at Delhi on 1st January 1877, and Lord Lytton the then Viceroy had issued invitations to the leading Native Princes to attend the assemblage. The

young Maharaja of Mysore in response to that invitation had repaired to Delhi, where he was received with marked distinction.

In 1881, on the Maharaja attaining the age of 18 years, the sole administration was entrusted to his care. On the occasion of his accession several stipulations were agreed upon between him and the British Government. They were as follows:—

1. The Maharaja Cham Rajendra Wodeyar Bahadur shall, on the twenty fifth day of March 1881, be placed in possession of the territories of Mysore and installed in the administration thereof.

2. The said Maharaja Cham Rajendra Wodeyar Bahadur and those who succeed him in manner here-in-after provided, shall be entitled to hold possession of, and administer the said territories as long as he and they fulfil the conditions here-in-after prescribed.

3. The succession to the administration of the said territories shall devolve upon the lineal descendant of the said Maharaja Cham Rajendra Wodeyar Bahadur, whether by blood or adoption, according to the rules and usages of his family, except in case of disqualification through manifest unfitness to rule.

Provided that no succession shall be valid until it has been recognised by the Governor-General in Council.

In the event of a failure of lineal descendants by blood and adoption, of the said Maharaja Cham Rajendra Wodeyar Bahadur, it shall be within the discretion of the Governor-General in Council to select as a successor any member of any collateral branch of the family, whom he thinks fit.

4. The Maharaja Cham Rajendra Wodeyar Bahadur and his successors (here-in-after called the Maharaja of Mysore) shall at all times remain faithful in allegiance and subordination to her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and Empress of India, her heirs and successors, and perform all the duties which, in virtue of such allegiance and subordination, may be demanded of them.

5. The British Government having undertaken to defend and to protect the said territories against all external enemies, and to relieve the Maharaja of Mysore of the obligation to keep troops ready to serve with the British army when required, there shall, in consideration of such undertaking, be paid from the revenues of the said territories to the British Government an annual sum of Government rupees thirty-five lakhs in two half-yearly instalments, commencing from the said twenty-fifth day of March 1881.

6. From the date of the Maharaja's taking possession of the territories of Mysore the British Sovereignty in the island of Seringapatam shall cease and determine, and the said island shall become part of the said territories, and be held by the Maharaja upon the same conditions as those subject to which he holds the rest of the said territories.

7. The Maharaja of Mysore shall not, without the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council, build any new fortresses or strong-holds, or repair the defences of any existing fortresses or strong-holds in the said territories.

8. The Maharaja of Mysore shall not, without the permission of the Governor-General in Council, import or permit to be imported into the said territories arms, ammunition, and military stores throughout the said territories, or at any specified place therein, whenever required by the Governor-General in Council to do so.

9. The Maharaja of Mysore shall not object to the maintenance or establishment of British Cantonments in the said territories, whenever and wherever the Governor-General in Council may consider such cantonments necessary. He shall grant free of all charge such land as may be required for such cantonments, and shall renounce all jurisdiction within the land so granted. He shall carry out in the lands adjoining British cantonments in the said territories such sanitary measures as the Governor-General in Council may declare to be necessary. He shall give every facility for the provision of supplies and articles required for the troops in such cantonments, and on goods imported or purchased for that purpose no duties or taxes of any kind shall be levied without the assent of the British Government.

10. The military force employed in the Mysore State for the maintenance of internal order and the Maharaja's personal dignity, and for any other purposes approved by the Governor-General in Council, shall not exceed the strength which the Governor-General in Council may from time to time fix. The directions of the Governor-General in Council in respect to the enlistment, organisation, equipment, and drill of troops shall at all times be complied with.

11. The Maharaja of Mysore shall abstain from interference in the affairs of any other State or power, or the agents or officers of any other State or power, except with the previous sanction and through the medium of the Governor-General in Council.

THE HIND RAJASTHAN.

12. The Maharaja of Mysore shall not employ in his service any person not a native of India without the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council, and shall, on being so required by the Governor-General in Council, dismiss from his service any person so employed.

13. The coins of the Government of India shall be a legal tender in the said territories in the cases in which payment made in such coins would, under the law for the time being in force, be a legal tender in British India; and all laws and rules for the time being applicable to coins current in British India shall apply to coins current in the said territories. The separate coinage of the Mysore State, which has long been discontinued, shall not be revived.

14. The Maharaja of Mysore shall grant free of all charge such land as may be required for the construction and working of lines of telegraph in the said territories wherever the Governor-General in Council may require such land, and shall do his utmost to facilitate the construction and working of such lines. All lines of telegraph in the said territories, whether constructed and maintained at the expense of the British Government, or out of the revenues of the said territories, shall form part of the British telegraph system, and shall, save in cases to be specially excepted by agreement between the British Government and the Maharaja of Mysore, be worked by the British Telegraph Department; and all laws and rules for the time being in force in British India in respect to telegraphs, shall apply to such lines of telegraph when so worked.

15. If the British Government at any time desires to construct or work, by itself or otherwise, railway in the said territories, the Maharaja of Mysore shall grant free of all charge such land as may be required for that purpose, and shall transfer to the Governor-General in Council plenary jurisdiction within such land; and no duty or tax whatever shall be levied on through traffic carried by such railway which may not break bulk in the said territories.

16. The Maharaja of Mysore shall cause to be arrested and surrendered to the proper officers of the British Government any person within the said territories accused of having committed an offence in British India, for whose arrest and surrender a demand may be made by the British Resident in Mysore, or some other officer authorised by him in this behalf; and he shall afford every assistance for the trial of such persons by causing the attendance of witnesses required, and by such other means as may be necessary.

17 Plenary criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects in the said territories shall continue to be vested in the Governor-General in Council, and the Maharaja of Mysore shall exercise only such jurisdiction in respect to European British subjects as may from time to time be delegated to him by the Governor-General in Council.

18 The Maharaja of Mysore shall comply with the wishes of the Governor-General in Council in the matter of prohibiting or limiting the manufacture of salt and opium, and the cultivation of poppy, in Mysore; also in the matter of giving effect to all such regulations as may be considered proper in respect to the export and import of salt, opium and poppy heads.

19 All laws in force and rules having the force of law in the said territories when the Maharaja Cham Rajendra Wodeyar Bahadur is placed in possession thereof, as shown in the schedule hereto annexed, shall be maintained and efficiently administered, and, except with the previous consent of the Governor-General in Council, the Maharaja of Mysore shall not repeal or modify such laws, or pass any laws or rules inconsistent there with.

20 No material change in the system of administration, as established when the Maharaja Cham Rajendra Wodeyar Bahadur is placed in possession of the territories, shall be made without the consent of the Governor-General in Council.

21 All title-deeds granted and all settlements of land revenue made during the administration of the said territories by the British Government, and in force on the said 17th day of March 1881, shall be maintained in accordance with the respective terms thereof, except in so far as they may be rescinded or modified either by a competent Court of law, or with the consent of the Governor-General in Council.

22 The Maharaja of Mysore shall at all times conform to such advice as the Governor-General in Council may offer him with a view to the management of his finances, the settlement and collection of his revenues, the imposition of taxes, the administration of justice, the extension of commerce, the encouragement of trade, agriculture, and industry, and any other objects connected with the advancement of His Highness's interests, the happiness of his subjects, and his relations to the British Government.

23 In the event of the breach or non-observance by the Maharaja of Mysore of any of the foregoing conditions, the Governor-General

in Council, may resume possession of the said territories and assume the direct administration thereof, or make such other arrangements as he may think necessary to provide adequately for the good government of the people of Mysore, or for the security of British rights and interests within the province.

24 This document, shall supersede all other documents by which the position of the British Government with reference to the said territories has been formally recorded. And, if any question arise as to whether any of the above conditions has been faithfully performed, or as to whether any person is entitled to succeed, or is fit to succeed to the administration of the said territories, the decision thereon of the Governor-General in Council shall be final.

On the 25th of March 1881, it was resolved to re-unite the sovereign power with the sovereign title which had been so long divorced since 1831, the young Maharaja having proved himself eminently competent to discharge the onerous functions attached to his office. The subsequent record of the Maharaja's administrative and judicious reforms has abundantly redeemed the promise of efficiency and high capacity which the youthful Prince held out at the moment of his installation. At the time of this 'Rendition' the wisdom of the Viceroy's policy, by which the destinies of the innumerable subjects of this extensive province were entrusted to the hands of a young and inexperienced monarch, was doubted in several quarters; but these apprehensions were soon dispelled by the wisdom and sagacity which were manifested by that intelligent youth. He studiously pursued the same lines of reform and good government as were initiated by Sir Mark Cubbon and the other able Commissioners of Mysore; and the consequence was that the State was soon enabled to take its rank amongst the Premier Prince-doms of the Empire. Its advance in general prosperity has been marvellous and its vast strides on the path of progress have inspired admiration even in the hearts of the British administrators of India. Notwithstanding the rigours of the terrible famine of 1877 and the consequent wide-spread disaster amongst the populace, the resources of the State have been restored with amazing elasticity and rapidity. This phenomenal success of an Indian chief was no doubt, in a great measure due to the singularly happy choice the Maharaja made of his ministers, the late Mr Ranga Charlu and the present Dewan, Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer, statesmen of brilliant powers and keen foresight; yet the personal attainments of the distinguished chief contributed in no

small degree to the prosperity and happiness of the masses under his control. With wonderful assiduity the Maharaja laid his reforming hand on the several administrative departments of the realm—the Fiscal and the Judicial, Educational and Sanitary. Means of communication were facilitated and improved by the establishment of Railways on a vast scale; Famine-relief works were instituted at a considerable expense for securing to the suffering multitude the boon of plenty in seasons of distress; local industries and private enterprise, especially the gold-mining industry received munificent support and encouragement from the State; security of person and property was firmly established on a satisfactory footing, throughout the entire dominions of the State, and the Public works department claimed no small share of the Maharaja's attention and the resources of the kingdom. The cause of Education, of Female Education in particular, found in the Maharaja an able and enthusiastic advocate, whose practical reforms went a great way towards the amelioration of the softer sex and bringing it up to the level of the sterner one. The example set by Her Highness the Maharani's High caste Girls' School in the city of Mysore was unparalleled in the history of Education in this country. Upwards of four hundred girls, some of them of an age at which Indian females cease to come out into the public and all drawn from the higher classes, are already on the roll and receive a liberal education chiefly from Professors of their own sex, and this attempt to raise the women of Mysore to the same intellectual and moral status as their brothers and husbands enjoyed was essentially of a piece with the Maharaja's enlightened views. Above all, the name of this exemplary monarch will ever be associated with the history of Representative institutions in this country. The parental solicitude with which the Maharaja fostered habits of Local Self-Government amongst his people and the liberal sympathies and broad statesmanlike views he evinced in granting to his people the privileges of Election and Representation will ever cast a halo of splendour round his name, which will descend to posterity as that of a true champion of the cause of Political Liberty. The Representative Assembly, which is convoked to meet once in a year to ventilate the people's grievances and with which the Dewan takes counsel, is a standing monument of the anxiety which the Maharaja entertained to see the triumph of the people's suffrage in his own country.

The Maharaja besides mental training, had attained proficiency in horsemanship, hunting and the out-door game of Cricket. He was very moderate in his views and had introduced innumerable reforms in the State. In

the words of Colonel Malleeson, who was for some time his tutor and guardian, he was taught all, with the exception of Latin and Greek, that would be taught in an English School.

The esteemed monarch was not, however, destined to witness the full triumph of the liberal measures he had introduced in the State. Malevolent Fate grew envious of the felicity of the subjects of Mysore and could not long spare this popular prince to their people. Maharaja Cham-Rajendra Wodeyar was snatched away from his loving subjects by the cruel hand of Death, in the very flower of his life at the blooming age of 32. On the 28th of December 1894, the Maharaja expired at Calcutta, after a short illness of diphtheria. The shock came so sudden that it plunged the whole of Hindustan into sorrow and dismay. The loss was national and all the nations of India shared in the grief of the subjects of Mysore. Many a foreign court went into mourning and sympathised with the widow and the royal children in their sad bereavement. The name of the departed Maharaja, however, was cherished with endearment in the hearts of his loving subjects and it acquired a sort of sanctity which will not be effaced for generations to come. He left behind him three sons, of whom the eldest, Krishna Raj, was the rightful heir to the throne.

On the 2nd of February 1895 Maharaja Krishna Raj Wodeyar Bahadur was installed on the throne at the tender age of eleven. A Council of Regency was nominated with the approval of the Supreme Government of India, and during the minority of the young chief, it took up the administration of the country in its own hands. The Council is presided over by the Queen-Dowager as the Regent and Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer the able and devoted minister works as one of its members. The Council has responsible duties to perform and it is hoped that the trust solemnly reposed in them will by them be loyally discharged.

The Maharaja of Mysore has judicial powers of life and death. He has been guaranteed the right of adoption and is entitled to a salute of 21 guns.

Genealogical Tree.

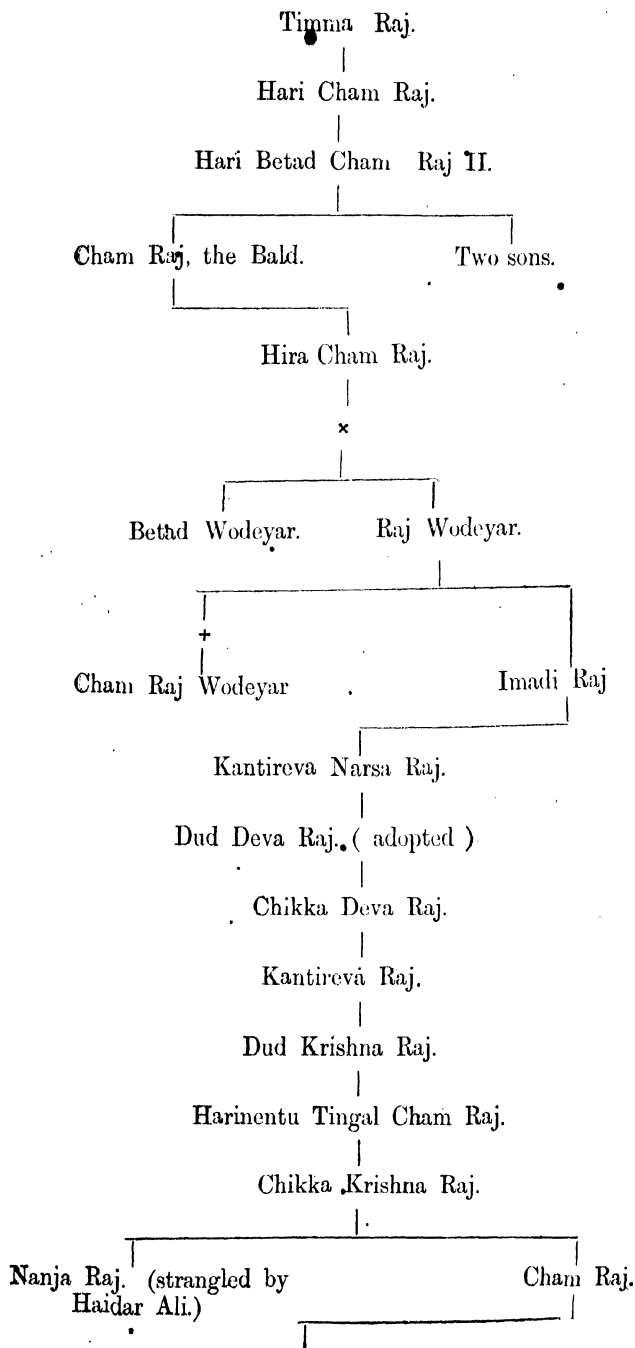
Vijaya Raya.

|

Yedu Raya.

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Hari Betad Cham Raj,



THE HIND RAJASTHAN.

Cham Raj II.

Krishna Raj Wodeyar.

Cham Rajendra Wodeyar. (Adopted)

Krishna Raj Wodeyar II.
(The present Maharaja)

Two sons.

Residence.—The Palace. Mysore: The Palace, Bangalore; Southern India.

BARODA,

Area—8590 sq. miles. Population—2,185,005.

Revenue—1,53,00,000 rupees.

The rulers of this State are descended from one of the offshoots of the great Maratha empire, that was founded on the ruins of the Mughal supremacy in India. At the time when the mighty Aurangzeb with his iron-hand was wielding the imperial sceptre in his capital at Delhi, an adventurous young man of the name of Shivaji, with a courageous and chivalrous heart within him was laying the foundation of the future Maratha Empire in the South. In 1664 Shivaji proclaimed his independence in the Deccan, and the small *Raj* which he founded in this year at Raigarh, the first seat of his Government, became thenceforward the nucleus of the extensive Maratha empire, which so effectually eclipsed and threw in the shade the once glorious Mughal autocracy. The very first act of his infant *regime* was the sack of the city of Surat. This interesting city was at this period the chief emporium of Hindustan, the central mart for Indian goods and manufactures, and it was here that the English and the Dutch Merchants had set up their factories for carrying on their Indian commerce. Shivaji plundered the city of Surat for six continuous days and obtained from the helpless people heaps of treasure for his prize. Lured by the prospects of such tempting booty in 1670, Shivaji once more extended his plundering campaign to this unfortunate city and from this date Gujarat became the occasional scene of the predatory excursions of the venturesome Marathas.

Third in descent from Shivaji, Shahu, ascended his *gadi* which had already been transferred from Raigarh to Satara, and it was under him that Khande Rao Dabhade—the chief commander of the Maratha forces, led an invasion against Gujarat with a view to levy tribute from that province. In this campaign against Gujarat Khande Rao was also accompanied by one Damaji Gackwad—a brother of Jhingoji Bava Patil. These brothers were the inhabitants of a small village of the name of Davadi near Poona, and were the sons of one Keroji—the Maratha Patil of the village. They first commenced their career under King Shahu as leaders of small bands of cavalry, each consisting of about forty to fifty men, and they were stationed at the encampment of Navapura in Khandesh. Damaji Gackwad claimed descent from the ancient *Bhargava Gotra*.

In 1707, when Khande Rao Dabhade, as narrated above, led his band of depredators against the fertile province of Gujarat, this Damaji Gackwad

with his horsemen, met him at the village of Talegam; and their combined forces while advancing subdued the forts of Peepalner, Songarh, Nawapura, and Nowsari which were garrisoned with small Maratha detachments. At the outpost of Navapura their forces had to encounter several reverses and many soldiers from their gallant band were ruthlessly put to the sword, but by their heroic prowess coupled with their prudence they were able to retain all the fruits of their victories. Subsequently they selected an inaccessible mountain-pass for their encampment, and here they erected a very strong fortress and founded a village which is still known by the name of Songarh. It was in this fortress of Songarh that the Gaekwad had to reside with his whole family in the first few years in the annals of the State.

In 1720, Khande Rao Dabhade achieved his final victory in the province on the plains of Balapur and thence he triumphantly returned to Satara. Damaji Rao Gaekwad had performed feats of bravery on this battle-field and Dabhade, the commander-in-chief, gratefully acknowledged the valuable assistance he had thus received from his lieutenant. These faithful services were brought to the notice of King Shahu, who acting on the recommendations of the general, graciously appointed Damaji Gaekwad as second in command, and also conferred upon him the honorific and dignified title of "Shamsher Bahadur". The close of this year, however, was marked by the deaths of both Khande Rao Dabhade and Damaji Rao Gaekwad, at the interval only of a few days. Their offices descended respectively to Trimbak Rao—the son of the former, and to Pilaji Rao—the nephew of the latter, and a son of Jhingoji Rao Patil, for Damaji had left no issue after him. The brother of Pilaji Rao Gaekwad, one Maloji Rao by name, also obtained the village of Sankheda in *Jagir* (1721). The descendants of this Maloji Rao even to the present day reside in the city of Baroda while those of his brother, Pilaji Rao rule at present over the Baroda State.

Pilaji Rao was thus the founder of the Gaekwad's *Raj* in the province of Gujarat in 1730. The province was, at this period, governed by one Sher-Buland Khan, a Moslem satrap deputed by the Mughal Emperor of Delhi to watch over the interests of Islam in Central India; and the executive administration of the district had been handed over by him to one Nizam-ul-Mulk, his assistant in office. The Emperor had at this time passed orders for the removal of this Naib Suba and to substitute one Shujat Khan in his

stead. Hamid Khan, an uncle of Nizam-ul-Mulk, however, headed a band of insurgents and raised the standard of revolt with a view to obstruct Sher Buland and prevent him from carrying out the imperial *firmān*. He sued the Marathas for help and called to his assistance Kanthaji Kadam Bande, the commander of King Shahu's forces at Dohad, and agreed to pay the *Chauth* of the province of Gujarat to this Maratha leader. In order to oppose this coalition, Rustam Ali, a brother of Shujat, on the other hand summoned to his assistance Pilaji Rao Gaekwad, on a promise of very favourable concessions to him. Pilaji Rao readily accepted this offer and when, in accordance with the terms of this alliance, the combined forces of the Gaekwad and of Rustam, after crossing the Mahi, were marching towards Adas, they were all of a sudden surprized by Hamid, who vigorously attacked them near Fazalpur. Hamid was, however, repulsed with great loss and had to beat an instant retreat. Pilaji, who was thus assured of Rustam's valour and the comparative weakness of the foes, now thought it expedient to stick to the cause he had espoused, and he attempted to persuade his gallant ally to pursue the vanquished enemy, leaving all his heavy baggage, his guns and his ammunition behind him in his own possession. Rustam, however, proved too shrewd to be thus imposed upon by Pilaji's really deceitful machinations which he instantly detected, and he declined to adopt the course suggested by his crafty ally; whereupon Pilaji by a bold manœuvre instantly seized his guns and turned them on Rustam's own lines. The brave Moslem, though made the victim of foul play on the part of his wily confederate, fought with the desperate courage of a lion, but his unfortunate men, who were all taken by surprize, could not withstand the vigorous charge of the Gaekwad's troops and they were all massacred on the spot. The gallant Rustam, fearing a worse treatment if captured in the hands of the victorious foes, stabbed himself with his dagger and thus put an end to his short but brilliant career.

As a prize for this ignoble deed of treachery Pilaji became entitled to a moiety of the *Chauth*, that had been promised by Hamid to Kanthaji. Naturally, however, a dispute arose between these two rival claimants as to their respective portions in the spoils of war. Of the two, Kanthaji had been more popular, and was more loved by his people than Pilaji, whose cruel and sanguinary temperament had no hold on the hearts of his own followers. Kanthaji, by no means anxious to bring matters to a crisis tried to heal up this difference and forwarded a final message to Pilaji. Taking his stand on his greater popularity in the province, he requested Pilaji to withdraw his men from the district of Gujarat, which he claimed for himself,

asking him to accept his fair share in the booty that was offered to him.

Pilaji was highly incensed at this ultimatum and he openly declared hostilities by arresting the bearer of this message, whom he instantly imprisoned. In the rupture that ensued Pilaji was beaten back with great loss and had to hide himself for shelter in a small village near Matar in the Kaira district. Meanwhile Hamid played the part of a conciliator, and through his intercession peace was restored on the following terms;—that Kanthaji was to appropriate all the *Chauth* of the districts in Gujarat lying to the west of the river Mahi, while Pilaji was to content himself with the *Chauth* of the districts to the east of the river, which was to serve as the boundary-mark. The monsoons had now set in and the Marathas in accordance with their immemorial usage had to retire, at this season, to their monsoons quarters. Pilaji thus retreated to Songarh and Kanthaji traced his way back to Khandesh.

When the affairs of Gujarat were in such a perturbed state the Emperor of Delhi deputed Sher Buland Khan, the ex-viceroy of the provinces, who had been expelled therefrom by the aggressions of Hamid Khan, to restore order and tranquillity in the disturbed regions. The Suba by hurried marches approached Ahmedabad, which was soon deserted by Hamid, who fearing that no instant Maratha assistance would then be available, fled from the city, leaving some of his straggling followers to protect the citadel against the advancing foe. Immediate succour and re-inforcements were, however, ready at hand; for the Maratha generals, Pilaji and Kanthaji met him at the city of Mahmedabad and their allied forces instantly marched to the relief of the deserted fortress of Ahmedabad. Sher Buland had, however anticipated them at the fort, which he succeeded in reducing without much opposition and the small guard that was entrusted with the work of protecting the citadel could not long hold out and had to capitulate. The victorious Suba had taken up his position near Adalaj, where his forces were all drawn up in battle-array, ready to exchange blows with the Marathas. In a pitched battle that ensued Sher Buland gained a decisive victory and remained the undisputed master of the field. The Marathas, however, as usual resorted to a sort of guerilla warfare, and in their acts of pillage and rapine Hamid became an active participant. The poor cultivating ryots of Gujarat had to suffer excessive hardships from these incessant inroads of the plundering marauders and the Maratha free-booters, and in spite of Sher Buland's vigilant efforts to maintain order the fiscal resources of the

province suffered a total collapse. He could not even raise a sufficient revenue to meet the expenses of the administration, till at last he was forced to implore the central Government at Delhi for help. But when all hopes of assistance from that quarter had even failed, he could only see one way of averting the pest of pillage from the unfortunate district, and that was to agree to the cession of the *Charuth* of Gujarat to Pilaji Gaekwad. But the Marathas did, by no means, stop here; under the name of *Charuth* they began to appropriate all the fiscal produce of the province till at last Sher Buland was driven to the painful necessity of beseeching the Peshwa to afford him timely relief.

Baji Rao Peshwa, the astute minister of King Shahu, readily responded to this call and sent a large force under his brother Chimnaji Appa to succour the oppressed Viceroy, Sher Buland. The Suba agreed to cede the *Charuth* as well as the *Sirdeshmukhi-hakks* in the province to the Peshwa, who, in his turn stipulated to see that the revenues of Gujarat were thenceforward raised without any molestation or obstruction. In the name of the Peshwa his brother also undertook to provide two thousand mounted guards for the preservation of order and for the protection of life and property in the district. Chimnaji Appa also pledged the word of King Shahu that no Maratha power would thereafter harbour, or in any way countenance the disaffected land-holders of Gujarat or any other mischievous men, intent upon disturbing the public peace in the province. This stipulation was specially directed against Pilaji Gaekwad, who had made a common cause with the aboriginal Bhils and the Koli rebels of the district.

This amicable settlement which the Peshwa had thus succeeded in effecting with Sher Buland Khan was not, however, looked upon with any favour by the other rival Maratha grandees, who were jealous of the rapidly growing power of the Brahman minister, whom they all viewed with a suspicious eye. Trimbak Rao Dabhade and the other Maratha leaders made this their common cause and by their co-operation and joint efforts a large army of about 35000 men was collected in Gujarat to fight the Peshwa and expel him from the central regions. Nizam-ul-Mulk, the moslem governor of the Deccan also promised his hearty co-operation in this enterprise. To fight with them Baji Rao Peshwa marched in person at the head of a strong force, with which he succeeded in crossing the Narbada. The moment of action was not far distant, for a little to the north of the river, his troops encountered the allied forces of the Marathas under Damaji Rao, a son of Pilaji Gaekwad. A terrible carnage ensued, which resulted in the defeat of the Peshwa. The

Peshwa, however, did not lose heart at this first rebuff; and though vanquished he courageously rallied his men back to his standard and with them again measured his strength with the foes. At the village of Bhilupur, situated mid-way between Baroda and Dabhoi the belligerent forces met in a terrible clash; the Peshwa was bent upon retrieving the honour of his sword, and as if making amends for the previous disaster, and repairing his injured credit he fought with the desperate courage of a veritable hero. The opponents* fought with creditable valour and disputed every inch of ground with their foes from the south. The battle raged in its utmost fury for several hours, till at last Trimbak Rao Dabhade sustained a mortal wound and fell amidst the heaps of the slain on the blood-stained field. The allied forces lost heart at the loss of their courageous general and losing their ground they became a confused medley of terror-stricken fugitives flying for their life. The Peshwa thus achieved a dearly-bought but richly-deserved victory, in 1731.

Pilaji Gaekwad was wounded in this fight, and one of his sons, Shiyaji Rao was amongst the slain. He succeeded, however, in carrying away two other of his sons, Damaji Rao and Khande Rao in safety to his fortress of Songarh after surmounting immense hardships and difficulties on the way. On the list of the slain might also be seen the names of Janoji Dabhade and Maloji Pavar; amongst the captives that fell into the hands of the foe there were Daji Pavar and Chimnaji Panth; while Anand Rao and Baji Rao Peshwa were also more or less wounded in this terrible fight.

The Peshwa triumphantly returned to Satara with flying colours; from this campaign, however, he was forced to learn a salutary lesson that it was not safe to ignore the existence of these adventurous Maratha leaders and to spurn them with impunity. He lost no time, therefore, in conciliating them and appeasing their wrath, and with a view to propitiate them further he bestowed the office of the commander of the Maratha forces on Jasvant Rao, an infant son of Trimbak Rao Dabhade, the deceased general; the mother of the infant was appointed his guardian, while the duty of discharging all the functions of the office devolved upon Pilaji Gaekwad, who was appointed the *mutalik* or agent of the minor Dabhade, and was also further decorated with the title of "Sena Khas Khel," in addition to the previous title of "Shamsher Bahadur" bestowed upon the Gaekwads. It was also

*They were led by Pilaji Gaekwad, Kanthaji Kadam, Raghunath Rao Kadam, Shiyaji Rao Bende, Anand Rao Pavar and other Maratha dignitaries of renown.

finally agreed that Pilaji Rao Gaekwad was to pay half of the revenues of Gujarat, as his tribute to the central Maratha Government at Satara through the Peshwa; that no Maratha power was, thereafter, to interfere with the possessions of any brother potentate either in Gujarat or in Malwa; and that Pilaji was to be at the head of the administration of Gujarat on behalf of the minor commander of the forces (1731.).

The terms of the alliance which the Peshwa had entered into with Sher Buland Khan, the Viceroy of Gujarat, as narrated above, were, however, not ratified by the Emperor of Delhi, who instantly removed the Suba from his office, and despatched Abhaya Singh, the Maharaja of Jodhpur to receive the seals of office from the superseded Viceroy. The new imperial delegate marched down upon Ahmedabad, which he forcibly seized from the hands of Sher Buland's followers, whom he instantly put to flight; he reduced the fortress of Baroda and several neighbouring strong-holds and left the management of all these conquered forts under the authority of a moslem noble, Babee* Mahomed Bahadur Khan alias Sher Khan. At this juncture Pilaji Gaekwad had been detained, on a pilgrimage, at Dakor and was thus absent from the scene of action. On returning, however, when he heard the news of this disaster he resolved to vindicate the honour of his arms and succeeded in reducing several imperial strong-holds in the province. Abhaya Singh thereupon resolved to get rid of this dangerous and daring foe by any means, fair or foul, that he could think of. In 1732, he professed intimate relations and paid a friendly visit to Pilaji Gaekwad, when he lay encamped at Dakor. Friendly messages were being constantly interchanged and amicable correspondence was incessantly kept up by this wily Rajput, who to allay even the faintest suspicion, often personally waited upon the Gaekwad, whom he thus succeeded in throwing off his guard. One day, at last, the customary visit was unusually protracted till very late in the evening; and when he came out of the tent after bidding adieu to the unfortunate Pilaji, an assassin who according to preconcerted design was awaiting his opportunity, entered the tent under the pretext of conveying some important and secret state matter to the Maratha prince; and when to all appearance he was confidently pouring this message into the ears of the unsuspecting Pilaji, he stabbed him with his dagger, 1732.

The infamous treachery, which thus resulted in the untimely death of

* Babee Mahomed Bahadur Khan was one of the ancestors of the present Mahomedan rulers of Junagarh and Belasinor.

the Gaekwad, did not however, bear the desired fruit to Abhaya Singh; for the Desai of Padra, one of the bosom friends of the murdered Pilaji, on hearing the sad intelligence of his death, lost no time in mustering a host of Bhil and other war-like aboriginal tribes, and with their assistance he vowed vengeance on the treacherous enemy. He instantly summoned Maloji Rao, the brother of the deceased Gaekwad, who was then residing at Jambusar and with him he surprized the enemy at Baroda, which he triumphantly wrested from the hands of Sher Khan Babee. It was thus in 1734 that the city of Baroda became subject to the sway of the Gaekwad and it so continues to the present day. Pilaji left eight sons after him:—(1) Damaji Rao (2) Khande Rao, (3) Pratap Rao, (4) Anand Rao; (5) Sayaji Rao, (6) Yeshwant Rao, (7) Keloji Rao, and (8) Jayasing Rao; the eldest of whom, Damaji Rao, being the heir-apparent, sallied forth from Songarh with some forces under his command with a view to avenge his father's blood. After reducing several districts, in the east of Gujarat, Damaji Rao even extended his conquering arms to the very confines of Jodhpur, when Abhaya Singh apprehensive of a disaster there, instantly hastened by forced marches to its relief, lest he would lose his hereditary kingdom of Jodhpur, which was thus threatened by the adventurous Damaji Rao. The Rajput Viceroy had left behind him his *mutalik* or agent at Ahmedabad, to whose care he entrusted the province of Gujarat; the weak agent, however, proved unequal to the occasion and could not cope with the vigorous onslaught of the energetic and youthful Gaekwad, who, having secured his position in East Gujarat, succeeded finally in snatching the whole province from the hands of the powerless Mughals. The aggressions of the enterprising Damaji Rao were, however, by no means confined to the possessions of the enemy; for he spared neither friends nor foes. Jasvant Rao Dabhade, who after attaining the age of majority had proved himself hopelessly unfit for his task, became the next victim of Damaji Rao's ambition. He was superseded and the Gaekwad appropriated to himself vast funds of *Sirdeshmukhi*, and the tributes that he levied on behalf of the Marathas from the subject states of Kathiawad till the end of 1743. In this year the Mughal satrap Momin Khan *alias* Mirza Jaffer, who still retained the empty title of the Viceroy of Gujarat, expired and Abdul Azeef Khan was deputed by the central Government of Delhi to take over the reins of that sinecure post. Before he could assume even this nominal authority he was waylaid by the vigilant Gaekwad, who slew the unfortunate Suba and crushed all his forces. This was, however, not

the first disaster that the Mugals had encountered at the hands of the Gaekwad in Gujarat, for three years before (1740) when Fakeerud-Daula was marching down from Delhi upon Ahmedabad with a view to take that city into his own possession, his progress was successfully resisted by a small detachment of Maratha troops under Rangojee, the Gaekwad's lieutenant, and he was prevented from effecting his entry into that important city. Damaji Rao, who on this occasion was absent at Satara, on returning set at defiance the authority of Fakeer-ud-Daula, whom he did not recognize as the Suba. He on the contrary set up the claims of his own moslem allies, a son and a brother of Momin Khan, to the honours of the Viceroyalty and he thus succeeded in making a split in the enemy's camp. His own brother, Khande Rao, he conciliated by handing over to him the fortress of Borsad and the fertile district of Nariad, and he also appointed him his own *mutalik* at Baroda. By such alternate schemes of aggression and conciliation Damaji Rao widely extended the dominions of the Gaekwad. At this period of Maratha history the Court of Poona was suffering from an alarming disorder; it was hopelessly plunged into party-intrigues and factious jealousies between the contending rivals. The Maratha King Rajaram was a puppet in the hands of his astute minister, Balaji Baji Rao, the third Peshwa, who in reality wielded all the regal power. Tara Bai, the Queen-dowager, apprised her son of the imminent peril that threatened the Maratha crown, and warned him of the danger that the Maratha power was to apprehend from the ambition of the clever Brahman ministers. She exhorted him to win back the reality of power from the hands of the Peshwa, who was no more than a mere servant of the Maratha sovereign; but the weak prince, Rajaram, could not shake off his inherent sloth and was deluded into a sense of security by the crafty Peshwa. Tara Bai at last appealed to Damaji Rao Gaekwad and in 1751, she earnestly invited him to Satara requesting him to liberate the Maratha King and his kingdom from the grip of the ambitious Peshwa. Damaji Rao instantly set forth towards Satara, but he was over-reached by the shrewd Peshwa, who perfectly aware of the Gaekwad's movements treacherously seized him on the road and confined him in a fort at Satara. Damaji Rao when he was thus surprized, fought at first, with admirable courage and defeated several troops of the Peshwa, but at last he was outnumbered and had to surrender his person to the Brahman minister. The Gaekwad had then to purchase his freedom by acceding to several unfavourable terms dictated by the Peshwa. The minister

demanded all the arrears of the tribute and the other *lakhs* which the Gaekwad had raised for himself as well as a portion of his newly acquired dominions in Gujarat. Damaji Rao, however, expressed his inability to agree to the terms proposed as he, in his capacity of *mutalik*, had no such express authority from his master Dabhade. The Peshwa could easily see through this hoax and in his rage he seized all the women and other family people of the Gaekwad and of Dabhade, and kept them under strict surveillance in some secure hill-fortress. He also surprised the Gaekwad in his encampment, got him arrested and instantly pushed him on to Poona where he was compelled to concede whatever the Peshwa exultingly demanded. The exorbitant terms on which the Gaekwad had to purchase peace from the Court of Poona were of the following tenor:—Damaji Rao was to pay fifteen *lakhs* of rupees in lieu of the arrears of tribute; he was also to part with half of the revenues that were collected from the districts subject to him as also from his newly conquered domains. The Gaekwad also undertook to pay half the residual *Charuth* and *Sirdeshmukhi* after deducting the necessary expenses of collection from the fund. The Peshwa on his part agreed to lend ten thousand mounted sepoy to the Gaekwad whenever he stood in need of such assistance. The Gaekwad also promised to raise the sum of five *lakhs* and twenty thousand rupees annually from that portion of Gujarat which was still subject to Dabhade, and pay over that sum on his own responsibility to the Peshwa. In order to secure strict obedience to the terms of this agreement Raghunath Rao, the Peshwa's brother, was ordered to accompany the Gaekwad, who was now set at liberty, and they both marched forth towards Gujarat. On the way they made fresh territorial conquests and levied tribute from the subdued domains, till at last they came up to the very gates of Ahmedabad. The city was at this period under the sway of Juvan-mard Khan II, the Mughal Viceroy of Gujarat. At the time, however, when the two Maratha leaders approached the fort of Ahmedabad, the moslem chief was engaged in some military operations at Palanpur. Taking advantage of the Suba's absence the Marathas were on the point of effecting an entry into the city by scaling over the walls of its fortress, when the Babee (Suba) hastened to its relief. The garrison within the fort seeing that succour was nigh fought with desperate valour and successfully defended the fortress. Juvan-mard Khan, however, was not at all inclined to fight with the Marathas and an agreement was instantly drawn up and signed by the contending chiefs. It was arranged that the Babee was to renounce all claims to Ahmedabad and

was to receive in return the districts of Patan, Vadnagar, Bijapur and Radhanpur. When the hostilities had thus terminated, the moslem chief evacuated the city of Ahmedabad and settled himself at Radhanpur where he set up a separate and independent *Raj*, 1757. It was in this year that the Mughal supremacy in Gujarat was extinguished for ever.

When the metropolis of Gujarat had thus fallen into the hands of the Marathas it became comparatively easy to subdue the whole province, which was subsequently apportioned between the Gaekwad and the Peshwa. The Brahman minister was cautious enough to station several of his own officers in Ahmedabad to protect its citadel and stem the current of the Gaekwad's influence in the district.

It was arranged that the Gaekwad could only keep his forces in a mansion in the city, which to this day goes by the name of the Gaekwad's *Haveli*, so as effectually to prevent his troops from exerting their local influence with the inhabitants around them. Thus though the province of Gujarat was chiefly won by the prowess of the Gaekwad, that chief had to yield to the control of the all-powerful Peshwa and to accept without reservation any stipulations, however prejudicial to his own aspirations, which were imposed by the Court of Poona. That Court, however, soon became again a scene of turmoil and seditious conspiracies occasioned by the unquenchable ambition of Raghunath Rao, who was intent upon usurping the Peshwa's *gadi*, which was so ably occupied by that brilliant youth, Madhav Rao. Damaji Rao Gaekwad sent some re-inforcements under the command of his son, Govind Rao, to assist his old comrade Raghunath Rao, but in the scuffle that ensued the combined forces of Raghunath Rao and the Gaekwad were put to rout and as a result of this defeat the Gaekwad had to suffer a penalty for having made a common cause with his ally Raghunath Rao. An annual tribute of 525000 rupees was imposed on the Gaekwad, who was also to retain in the Peshwa's service 3000 horse in times of peace and 5000 during war, all to be maintained at his own expense. The Gaekwad, in return received from the Peshwa some additional territories, which owing to the distance of their geographical situation the latter could not effectually keep under his subjection; and he further promised, in lieu of such accession to his dominions, to pay yearly a some of 253000 rupees as tribute to the Peshwa. The Gaekwad, at this period, had thus to pay in all a sum of 778000 rupees as tribute to the central Court of Poona. The year 1772 was marked by the death of Damaji Rao Gaekwad, which occurred at the city of Patan. He

left five sons after him:— (1) Shiyaji Rao, (2) Govind Rao, (3) Malhar Rao *alias* Ram Rao, (4) Manaji Rao, and (5) Fattah Sinh Rao. Govind Rao, the second son, was at Poona, at the time of his father's death, and when he heard the news he contrived to get his own name inserted in the place of his father by the payment of a handsome royalty (*Nazarana*) to the Peshwa. He thus designed to supersede his elder brother, Shiyaji Rao, who was the rightful claimant to the *gadi*, and the Peshwa who was eagerly awaiting to witness such ruptures in the family of the Gaekwad, too readily gave countenance to the pretensions of Govind Rao. Internecine feuds in the family of the Gaekwad meant substantial decline of their power and local influence, and were occasions anxiously desired by the Peshwa, who meant to reap some advantage to himself out of the family disputes, and with a view to cause an irreparable breach in the relations of the Gaekwad brothers, he subsequently espoused the cause of Shiyaji Rao, and rejected the title of Govind Rao to the *gadi*. Shiyaji Rao, however, owing to his simple nature and weak temperament was incapacitated for the arduous task of government, and to remove this source of difficulty the Peshwa nominated Fattah-Sinh Rao, the youngest brother, as a *mutalik* of Shiyaji Rao on the Gaekwad's *gadi*. Owing to this change in the diplomatic policy of the Court of Poona, the two brothers, Shiyaji Rao and Govind Rao became mortal enemies and declared open hostilities; and Fattah Sinh Rao even went to the length of suing the English Government for help, in 1772. In that year at first the British authorities paid no heed to his negotiations for help; the subsequent year was however marked by the alliance between the English and the Gaekwad. In consequence of this mutual agreement for help the English had to interfere in a struggle that ensued between the Gaekwad and the Nawab of Broach. The Nawab was deprived of the city by the arms of the English, who handed over to the Gaekwad that portion of the city to which he had an ancient title and retained the residue for themselves.

A change came over the spirit of the foreign policy at the Court of Poona consequent upon the brutal murder of Narayan Rao Peshwa and the change of hands which it necessitated at the helm of the State. Govind Rao sought again to ingratiate himself into the good graces of the courtiers, but in the event he did not gain at all by this alteration in the ministry. The desire of restoring the Gaekwad's *gadi* to Fattah Sinh Rao on condition of the acknowledging the suzerainty of the Peshwa and of paying up the arrears of

tribute, at last gained ground in the Council of the Poona ministers, and Fattah Sinh Rao lost no time in paying homage to the paramount power of the Peshwa. On his accepting the conditions imposed upon him the Peshwa's troops won for him the possession of the Baroda territories. Subsequent to this, Fattah Sinh Rao cemented his old alliance with the British Government and they entered into fresh agreements with the common aim of undermining the Maratha supremacy in the south. In furtherance of this end the English recognised the Gaekwad as a ruler independent of the Peshwa, and it was in pursuance of this same desire that certain terms advantageous to that chief were inserted in the treaty that closed the first Maratha war. The struggle that commenced in 1776 between the Peshwa and General Goddard, commanding the English troops, was temporarily put a stop to by a truce signed on the 26th of January 1780. It was thereby arranged that Fattah Sinh Rao was to be declared the independent master of all the territories in Gujarat, that lay to the north of the Mahi and had till that day been subject to the Peshwa. The English were to appropriate to themselves the districts to the south of the Tapti and several villages around Sinor situated on the banks of the Narbada as well as the revenues of Broach. The Gaekwad further promised to assist the English in times of war with three thousand horse in substitution of the tribute, which he originally paid to the Peshwa and which the English now undertook to renounce. These terms were approved of, in the main, by the supreme Government, which, however, found some technical faults in the wording of the document, and they sent a fresh draft of the treaty with the signatures of the Governor-General and the Councillors to Fattah Sinh Rao Gaekwad, through the Bombay Government. In 1782, however, when the treaty of Salbai finally closed the hostilities with the Marathas, the terms agreed upon were not so favourable to the interests of the Gaekwad. The extent of the Gaekwad's territories remained in *status quo*; he was also left to pay the same annual tribute to the Peshwa, who only relinquished old debts due from Fattah Sinh Rao on account of the unpaid tribute.

On the 21st of December 1789, Fattah Sinh Rao slipped from the ladder leading up to his mansion and in consequence of the fall he expired. Manaji Rao, his brother, hastened to take up the administration of the State into his own hands, and he secured the Peshwa's colescence by the payment of a large *Nazarana*. The regal mandates were, however, issued by him in the name of his brother Shiyaji Rao, and by this device he con-

trived to propitiate the popular feelings. When Madhaji Sindhia, who, at this period had grown very powerful and was in a position to wield the destinies of the Maratha *Raj*, espoused the cause of Govind Rao and made preparations to win back the *gadi* of the Gaekwads for him. Manaji Rao to strengthen his own cause sued the English for help in pursuance of the treaty signed in 1780. The British Government, however, declined all assistance, pleading that the treaty referred to had been subsequently revoked by the Convention of Salbai. Meanwhile on the 1st August 1793 Manaji Rao breathed his last, and Shiyaji Rao, his eldest brother, had also a few days before departed from this world. The seed of dissension had thus perished and the claim of Govind Rao to the Gaekwad's estate became thenceforward undisputed and unquestioned. The old family feuds and quarrels were sealed up as it were by Govind Rao's ascension to the *gadi*. He had, however, to incur heavy expenses in obtaining this goal of his ambition. Besides a magnificent *Nazarana*, he had to cede to the Peshwa the district to the south of the Tapti, as well as a portion of the customs duties collected at the Surat port. He had already affixed his sign-manual to the bond embodying these terms, which were, however, objected to by the British Government, and they strongly remonstrated with the Peshwa for his contravening in effect the terms of the treaty of Salbai. The Peshwa was thereby prevailed upon to renounce all these advantages which were to be extorted from the helpless Govind Rao. The feelings thus estranged between the Peshwa and the new Gaekwad continued therefore for a time to be unmistakeably hostile. Meanwhile an officer of the name of Abba Shelukar was delegated by the Peshwa to levy tribute from that portion of Gujarat which was subject to the Court of Poona. This was the occasion of fresh differences between the two Courts, as Abba lay his hands even on the villages which were directly under the sway of the Gaekwad. He even seized the Gaekwad's mansion at Ahmedabad and this insulting outrage became the fresh apple of discord. The British authorities intervened and for a time prevented the stifled hostilities from breaking out into a flame.

At this period in 1800, the Nawab of Surat died and his dominions were annexed to British India. Mr. Duncan, the then Governor of Bombay, came down to Surat for the purpose of proclaiming the necessary orders. Taking advantage of the occasion, Govind Rao Gaekwad sent one of his trusted officers to Surat to pay his respects to the British Governor with a message asking for help against Abba Shelukar. It was represented by the

envoy that on behalf of Chimnaji Appa, the Suba nominated by the Peshwa, the affairs in the province of Gujarat were in reality managed by Abba Shelukar, and that his administration was the cause of much oppression to the Gaekwad, who was quite ready to cede the whole of the Chorashi District round Surat to the English, on condition of their lending him relief from the aggressions of Shelukar. The expostulations with Mr. Duncan, however, failed and when these overtures were finally rejected, Govind Rao at last took the decisive step of sending his troops under the command of Shivaram Gardee against Shelukar. The troops took up their quarters at the mosque of Shah Alum near Ahmedabad; but the campaign was productive of no immediate good to the Gaekwad, chiefly on account of the remissness of the general he had chosen. The dilatory habits of the leader were proverbial, and it became a common homely adage to say that "Where Shivaram Gardee lay, he stayed five weeks and a day." *

When Shelukar awoke to the danger that was impending he, in order to oppose the Gaekwad's invasion, mustered all the Sirdars and Thakores subject to him. With them he proceeded to withstand the Gaekwad's forces, and the opposing armies were engaged in a skirmish near Shah Alum, where Shelukar experienced a disastrous defeat. The Gaekwad's army seized the city of Ahmedabad, and captured the person of the obnoxious Abba, 1800. Thus terminated the career of Shelukar, reports about whose tyranny had been so wide spread that tradition represents even the blacksmith who forged his chains as quailing beneath the tyrant's glance and quivering like an aspen leaf all over his person, when he was fastening them on to the prisoner's legs. It is also said that he was so lustily fond of music and revelry that even though the foes had penetrated into the very heart of the city and were sounding their war-trumpets near the Bhadra-castle, he could not abandon the debauched carousal, and when news was brought to him of the approaching enemy he, on hearing the report of artillery beneath his own palace, returned only the laconic reply—"What matters it. Let them come." Thus for the loss of the sceptre of Gujarat Abba had to thank his own Epicurean love of repose and sensual delights. His playful and wanton temperament gave occasion to the following proverbial couplet in Gujarat:—

"With a bat in his hand, in his arm-pit a ball;

"Seized he the mansion, but lost Gujarat, that's all."

* (Gujarati) "Shivaram Gardee, jyan padya tyan ek mas ne ath dee".

† (Gujarati) "Hath man dando, bagal man moi; Havelee letan Gujarat khoi".

Ahmedabad thus fell into the hands of Shivaram and from that date the Gaekwad proclaimed his supremacy wherever the Peshwa had till then exercised sovereign power. Notwithstanding this, the Peshwa continued to receive an annual sum of five *lakhs* of rupees under the fiction that the entire province had only been farmed out to the Gaekwad.

On the night of the 19th of September 1800, Maharaja Govind Rao Gaekwad departed this life and the helm of affairs was at once taken up by the Dewan, Babaji Appaji, who at once created a council of administration with Meer Kamal-ud-Din, the chief military leader, and two other influential merchants, Mangal Parekh and Samal Behechar as members. At day-break all the wives of the deceased Gaekwad assembled, and Gena Bai, the Zalee Queen from Lakhtar, was prepared to immolate herself on the funeral pyre of her departed lord, but the Suttie was with great difficulty prevailed upon to abstain from this act of suicide. Govind Rao left three sons, after him—(1) Anand Rao (2) Fatteh Singh Rao and (3) Sayaji Rao. Anand Rao was proclaimed as the next Gaekwad and the corpse of his deceased father was then cremated.

No peaceful times, however, awaited Anand Rao's accession to the *gadi*. Fresh clouds of trouble and general disturbance were looming over the horizon and the prospect of a happy and prosperous reign was by no means encouraging. The cause of anxiety on this occasion proceeded from one Kanoji Rao, an illegitimate son of the late Govind Rao Gaekwad by his slave-girl. This youth had been endued with a turbulent temperament and excessive might; and he had already once raised his head in revolt during the life-time of his father. The grandees of the realm apprehended a similar recurrence of a rising and had taken ample precautions to frustrate any such attempt on the part of Kanoji Rao. All the cautions, however, proved entirely unavailing, and the position of Anand Rao on the hereditary *gadi* of the Gaekwad became precarious in the extreme. There was want of harmony amongst the very members of the administration, who were estranged by petty jealousies and mutual animosities. Kanoji Rao at once placed himself in communication with those members of the council who sympathised with him; and with the help of these colleagues he succeeded in tearing the diadem off Anand Rao's brow; and putting him in fetters he pent him up in close confinement. Kanoji Rao, however, had no hold on the hearts of the people. He tyrannised over them, and conducted himself towards his own allied ministers in a very overbearing

manner. Taking advantage of the popular voice which was against this haughty usurper, the partisans of Anand Rao openly raised an army, and they all rushed to the palace which was occupied by Kanoji Rao. His residence was surrounded on all sides by the insurgents who triumphantly laid their hands on the person of the tyrant. They brought the captive chief in the presence of Anand Rao, by whose orders he was forcibly disarmed and was sent away in chains to be shut up in some hill-fort between Gujarat and Malwa. The cloud that was hanging over the horizon, and was foreboding mischief had thus been cleared, and Anand Rao renewed his rule under better auspices. He appointed Ravaji Appaji as the Prime Minister at the helm of affairs; but the courtier could not long retain the seals of office. Before long Gajara Bai, the daughter of the late Gaekwad Fattah Singh Rao, picked up a quarrel with Ravaji Appaji, and dreading the evil effects of this altercation, the minister had to abandon Baroda and take refuge at Surat. Hardly a year had elapsed after this unfortunate incident, when Malhar Rao, the Suba of Kadi, raised the standard of revolt. This Malhar Rao was a grandson of the late Pilaji Rao Gaekwad and the son of Khande Rao. His title to the *Jagir* of Kadi was recognised by Fattah Singh Rao Gaekwad, who had also allowed him to inherit all the estates and dignified titles of his father. On that occasion, however, an agreement had been entered into, by which Malhar Rao had undertaken to pay homage to the elder branch of the family reigning at Baroda, and also to maintain four hundred horse in the service of the central Government or pay 120,000 rupees in default. He was permanently secured in his *Jagir* of Kadi only on the distinct understanding that he would rigidly adhere to the terms of the engagement. He was thus, in reality, only a tributary chief owing allegiance to the Gaekwad who was the suzerain. Notwithstanding this, he had assumed a position of total independence, and his demeanour at Kadi was characterised by marks of a wanton and insubordinate disposition. He had been much affected by the lot of the rebel Kanoji Rao, with whom he had secretly sympathised; and to complete the list of the causes of his disaffection Ravaji Appaji, at this period, demanded from him an instant payment of the arrears of tribute. He boldly refused to pay and collected a host of insurgents under his banner, and with their co-operation he rapidly made preparations for war on a grand scale. The partisans of Gajara Bai who were ill-disposed to the minister made a common cause with the followers

of Malhar Rao, who was highly elated with joy at this reinforcement. He was burning with a desire to fight with the Gaekwad and eagerly set forth on his riotous expedition. To the public at large he gave out that the laudable mission on which his expedition was bent was to avenge the wrongs of Kanoji Rao, who was represented to have been very harshly treated by the members of the Gaekwad's family, and to inflict their well-merited chastisement on the two brothers Ravaji and Babaji Appaji, who were spoken of as the real perpetrators of all mischief. There was a further accession to the strength of the rebels by the defection of Mukund Rao, an illegitimate son of the late Gaekwad, who on a pretext of visiting the holy temple of Dakor, left Baroda with immense treasure. The ministers tried their utmost to recall this chief and even sent some troops for his capture; but he eluded them all and went over to the side of Malhar Rao, whose hopes of eventual success were highly encouraged by this initial advantage. All the preparations of war being completed Malhar Rao took the offensive and forcibly, seized the forts of Visnagar and Vijapur. The shrewd rebel put on the appearance of achieving these advantages only for the good of Kanoji Rao, and by this device he disarmed much opposition. He also caused false rumours to be circulated to the effect that he had under him in all forty thousand men in arms. At this juncture the insurgent ranks were further swollen by a fresh defection on the part of Shiyaram Gardee, who could ill-brook the haughty demeanour of the ministers; and unable to bear insult he turned a renegade. It was through him that a false report was current to the effect that several other officers of the Gaekwad would also follow his example and finally be won over to the side of the rebel army.

The affairs of the Gaekwad were in this perturbed state of agitation when Babaji Appaji, the Commander-in-Chief of the Baroda troops; stationed his men at the Shahi Bag, near Ahmedabad. Hanumant Rao a brother of Malhar Rao, had encamped with his rebel forces near Kalol, and the opposing armies were engaged in several petty skirmishes. In these indecisive fights the advantage, however, lay in every instance with Malhar Rao, whose self-confidence increased with his victories. In spite of these successes, his followers were, however, diffident, and the partisans of Gajara Bai as well as the military officers of the Gaekwad who had sided with the rebels were desirous of suing the English Government for help. On behalf of Kanoji Rao they undertook to cede the *Chauth* of Surat, as

well as the Chorashi district as the price of their support. Anand Rao Gaekwad on the other hand was seeking to obtain assistance from the same quarter, his minister Ravaji Appaji despatched Meer Kamal-ud-Din and two other envoys to the Governor of Bombay, with powers to offer highly advantageous terms to him and secure his coalition at any cost. These plenipotentiaries urged that the *Chauth* of Surat, as well as the Chorashi district had already been offered to the British Government by Govind Rao, the late Gaekwad; but the arrangement had not till then been carried into effect and that they were now ready to pass a formal document to the same effect, 1802. Thus pressed for help by both the contending parties, the British Government weighed in an equable and impartial balance the respective rights of the rival claimants, and in conclusion deemed it more equitable to embrace the cause of the reigning Gaekwad, Anand Rao. The *Jagirdar* of Kadi had only a small tract under him; the Gaekwad on the contrary had the whole of the remaining province of Gujarat under his sway and had, therefore, in his favour, greater might as well as right. The envoys of Anand Rao appealed to the British authorities and called upon them to prevent any division of the Gaekwad's territories by drawing their attention to the express terms of the peace of Salbai to that effect. They also represented that their opponents were attempting to import foreign mercenary troops from the province of Sindh and the districts lying beyond the Indus, and that their arrival on the scene of action, would be a serious blot to the prestige of the English name. The Governor, moreover thought that if Anand Rao did not receive any succour from the English he would sue the Sindhia for help and would thus promote the local influence of that ambitious chief. He also deemed it prudent to uphold the status of the English Government as the paramount power in India, and in a position to settle by its intervention all the differences between the minor subject-states. Urged by these considerations, as also with a view of preserving intact the Gaekwad's dominions, he despatched an English contingent consisting of four hundred European and two thousand native troops, under the command of Major Walker to the relief of the Gaekwad. Major Walker had also definite instructions to avoid all military display and thereby effectually to escape general gaze and attention, and he was silently to hasten to Baroda, where he was to assume the office of the Resident without any further ado. It was from this date that British Residents were systematically stationed at the Baroda cantonment. The

power of levying *Chauth* from the Chorashi district and the city of Surat was also deputed to the Major. He at once proceeded to Baroda with the envoys of the Gaekwad. On approaching the city he was cordially welcomed by the minister Ravaji Appaji, who with a host of retainers had gone forth from the city to a distance of several miles in order to receive the British Agent with all the respect due to his position. The Major was introduced to the chief civil and military officers of the state and was escorted to the city with great pomp and the minister very hospitably accommodated him in a magnificent tent specially pitched for him, 1802. Next day Major Walker received the Gaekwad and his premier at his own residence and from their incidental conversation he could gather that the Gaekwad's hold over his territories had been fundamentally shaken and his power had been enervated in the extreme. The whole internal administration had been disorganised; the stipends of the militia had been outstanding and unpaid for several months, in spite of the angry protests of the soldiery. The entire extent of the country had been enveloped in chaotic turmoil, and the *grandees* of the realm had far surpassed their chief in haughtiness and pride. The reins of the Government were chiefly in the hands of the Arab soldiers, who had constituted a military despotism and the movements of the Gaekwad were as much fettered and constrained as those of a state-prisoner. This state of affairs was perceived at a glance by Major Walker, who also divined that the Arab militia would prove the chief obstruction to the English Government to their setting a permanent footing in the province of Gujarat; for even though their number was small, they had monopolised all the important and influential offices in the army. With a view finally to remove this obstacle, the Major stationed two English regiments in the very heart of the city, which would to some extent counter-balance their local influence. When these internal arrangements at the capital had been complete, Major Walker set forth on the task of quelling the insurrection in Kadi on the 8th of February, 1802. In this campaign he was accompanied by Babaji, the Commander of the Gaekwad's forces, and on the 10th March, the allied generals set their feet on the soil of Kadi, determined as they were to suppress the revolt without further delay. The Major had instructions to commence negotiations with the rebel enemy, and in case he found Malhar Rao anxiously desirous of entering into terms, he had express authority of dictating peace on terms most advantageous to the Gaekwad. The short campaign opened with petty skirmishes and trifling

encounters, when on the 3rd of May Malhar Rao surrendered himself to the English on a promise of indemnity to him and his family. Two days after, the fortress of Kadi was evacuated, and the English with the Gaekwad's regiments effected an entry into the castle. There they seized horses and camels, elephants and heavy canons, as well as war-magazines and other supplies of ammunition in plenty. Malhar Rao was sent away to Nariad, where he was maintained on a fixed yearly pension. His turbulent spirit had, however, not been finally crushed, for at a later date when Kanoji Rao, a spurious son of Manaji Rao Gaekwad, raised a similar revolt, Malhar Rao secretly instigated him and lent him all the support that lay within his power. Kanoji Rao was conspiring with the Jam of Navanagar with the object of uprooting the British Government in the district of Gujarat and of usurping the Gaekwad's *gadi* at Baroda for himself. The conspiracy, as might be expected proved abortive and Malhar Rao, who had been a participant in these dark intrigues, was punished for his treasonous intentions and was imprisoned in the island of Bombay, while Kanoji Rao was banished to Madras. Both the chiefs subsequently died at the places of their exile, 1822.

The expulsion of Malhar Rao from the district of Kadi was synchronous with the permanent establishment of a British Resident at the Court of Baroda. Major Walker was formally invested with the office of the Resident for the first time in June 1802, and from this date a vast amount of the Gaekwad's prestige and influence was transferred to the hands of the English. On that occasion they obtained the *Chauth* of Surat and the Chorashi division from the Gaekwad, who also undertook to cede his own portion of the Surat Athavisi district in lieu of expenses for the maintenance of the British contingent stationed at Baroda. The English Government were to use all their efforts in the task of minimising the strength of the Arab element in the army, and the Gaekwad bound himself to lend every assistance to this undertaking, and to surrender the district of Chikhali to the English in recognition of these services to be rendered by them. It was also stipulated that the Gaekwad should defray the expenses of maintaining two thousand native infantry, a party of English gunners and several other troops in due proportion, and in lieu of these charges he was to cede to the English any portion out of his dominions, which would meet with the approval of both the parties. An agreement to the above effect was entered into on the 4th of June 1802, but on the following day some alterations

and amendments, as well as some new clauses were inserted in the bond. It was further provided that the English were to lend largesums of money to the Gaekwad, to be devoted to the disbursement of all the arrears of pay to the Arab soldiers on the eve of their disbandment; and as a security for these loans several districts were to be assigned to them. The English finally agreed to maintain a subsidiary contingent in the Gaekwad's employ and received in return the Dholka district to cover the necessary expenditure.

It was not still reserved to the lot of the Gaekwad, however, to enjoy total immunity from danger and vexation. Hardly had the revolt under Malhar Rao been quelled, when another enemy raised his head in defiance, and threatened the capital from more proximate quarters. He was an upstart of the name of Ganpat Rao, who claimed his descent from the Gaekwad's family, and the Pretender even went to the length of saying that his title to the hereditary *guli* was superior to that of even the late Maharaja Govind Rao Gaekwad. To this adventurer the district of Sankheda with its fort had first been farmed out in lieu of a small payment; but he now thought of setting up his own independence, and emphatically declining to account for the fiscal returns, he sought the shelter of Malhar Rao when the latter was still up in arms. When the rising at Kadi had been effectually suppressed, Ganpat Rao concealed himself behind the walls of Sankheda. Here he was joined by another desperate youth—one Morari Rao, who had also been an offspring of the illicit lust of one of the Gaekwads. They were, however, expelled from the fort by a British detachment under Captain Bethune, who chased them to the very skirts of Malwa. They fled in the direction of Dhar, and Sankheda then fell an easy prey to the arms of the Gaekwad.

These sources of anxiety from without had at last been removed, and the general ebullition in the country had been for a time set at rest, when Ravaji Appaji, the faithful and devoted premier, with the advice of the British Resident, Major Walker, commenced the long thought of and arduous task of eliminating the Arab element from the administration of the State. These Arabs had long seized the reins of office in their hands and their influence had permeated into every department of the State. All the important and topmost places in the Government had been filled by occupants chiefly of this race, and the Gaekwad was regarded by them merely as a toy in their hands. At last on the 25th of December 1802, these obnoxious Arab

Jamadars were closely packed on all sides by a party of English soldiers under Colonel Waddington, who seized the ramparts and invested the city from all directions. The Jamadars were compelled to yield and at last they agreed to retire for ever from the State, on condition of receiving all the arrears of their pay. Their unpaid emoluments had swollen to the alarming amount of two millions, and the entire revenues of the State had been hypothecated to them in satisfaction of their demands. They now expressed their readiness to sever all their connections with the State on condition of being paid their legitimate dues, as well as the British Government substituting their own guarantee in favour of the merchants, whose life and property they themselves had guaranteed before. The English Government saw the justice of these claims, and for the purpose of redeeming the revenues they themselves lent large sums of money to the Gaekwad, as well as induced several money-lenders to give such loans, accepting, in return, several districts as a security for repayment. The pay of the Arab Jamadars was finally disbursed, and they were thereupon eventually disbanded. The British Government stood security to those merchants, who had at their call lent sums of money to the Gaekwad on this occasion.

On the 21st of April 1805, a fresh settlement was effected between the English and the Gaekwad. Both the powers had long felt the necessity of introducing some amendments into the old document, and the Gaekwad accordingly undertook to retain in his employ 3000 subsidiary troops, instead of the 2000 men, previously agreed upon. It was, however, arranged in 1817, that this additional force was not to be called into existence, unless urgently required, and to repay the English Government for the expense of maintaining this force, the Gaekwad consented to part with several districts and the *Chauth* of Surat in favour of the English. The districts which were thus agreed to be ceded to the Paramount power on this occasion yielded an annual income of one million and hundred and seventy thousand rupees.

The term for which the tribute of Kathiawad and the revenues of Ahmedabad were farmed out by the Peshwa to the Gaekwad had expired in 1804, and in that year the Peshwa passed a new bond, by which the lease was extended to a further period of ten years, on condition that the Gaekwad would pay every year a sum of 4,45,000 rupees to the Peshwa under the guarantee of the British Government. The Peshwa now demanded some unpaid balance found due on that account from the Gaekwad, who, on the contrary, urged

that the accounts if accurately stated and carefully taken would on the whole display a fair balance payable to him by the Peshwa. He remonstrated with the Court of Poona for their having surrendered, without his knowledge, to the English, the city of Broach, a part of which had legitimately belonged to him, and which the Peshwa had thus no right to part with. The Gaekwad also lay claim to several sums due from the Peshwa on account of the military expenditure of that city. When the two Courts had thus fallen out, the Peshwa, in the face of such differences and altercations, declined to renew the old ten years' lease, which had now expired in 1814, and on behalf of Bajji Rao Peshwa, his minister Trimbakji Dangle sent round a general proclamation to the tributary chiefs of Kathiawad, asking them to desist from making any payments to the Gaekwad or his agents. With a view of arriving at an amicable compromise the Gaekwad deputed his minister, Gangadhar Shastri, who proceeded to the Court of the Peshwa in 1814, under the protection of the British Government, which vouchsafed to secure his life against all danger. The embassy, however, failed and was productive of no definite good; and the Shastri, tired of any further unavailing stay at the Court of Poona, and acting on the advice of Mr. Elphinstone, the then Resident at the Court, set forth on his return journey to Baroda. The Gaekwad's envoy, however, here met with a very sad fate; for the treacherous and wily Trimbakji, the favourite minister of the Peshwa, under the pretext of escorting him on a pilgrimage to the holy shrine of Pandharpur, got him barbarously assassinated on the very steps of the sacred altar in the temple. The crafty Trimbakji had, however, to pay for this infamous deed with the loss of his liberty; for the Peshwa was compelled to surrender the person of the offender, and he was put into prison at the fort of Thana. Thence, however, he contrived to effect his escape; but he was again arrested and was securely lodged in a dungeon at the hill-fort of Chunar, where he dragged out his miserable existence to the end. It was this deed of shameful guilt, which amongst other causes dragged the English Government, whose guarantee had been thus defied, into the memorable war of 1817, and thus hastened the ruin of the Peshwa. By the final agreement, which terminated the hostilities, the Peshwa had to renounce all his claims to any outstanding debts due from the Gaekwad; he had also to forego his right to the four hundred thousand rupees, which the Gaekwad had undertaken to pay in lieu of old claims under the old bond. The Gaekwad was also allowed, by the terms of this agreement, to increase the cavalry service in his army; he was also asked to

fix the permanent boundary marks of his own territories so as clearly to demarcate them from the British dominions, after mutual cession of convenient districts in exchange. The Gaekwad also bound himself to assist the English in times of war with a contingent troop of horse. Finally, certain extradition clauses for the mutual surrender of criminals were also inserted in the terms of this treaty. The eventful year of 1818 was thus noted for the final establishment of the British Paramount power in the district of Gujarat. The authority of the Peshwa had been trampled over, and the domains of Gujarat, which had till then been under his sway, had to transfer their allegiance to the English Government, which now enjoyed undisputed supremacy on this side of India.

Anand Rao Gaekwad departed this life on the 2nd of October 1819: Behind him, he left two sons, Balvant Rao and Pilaji Rao, by his Rajput wife, Takhta Bai; but being born of a woman of an alien caste, they were deemed spurious under the text of the sacred Hindu Scriptures, and were therefore incapable of inheriting their father's patrimony. The *gadi*, in consequence, descended to Sayaji Rao, a brother of the deceased chief. During his regime the occasions of British intervention in the internal arrangements of the body *politique* were gradually diminished; but to preserve the prestige of their name unimpaired, it was once for all agreed that the Gaekwad should in every instance respect the plighted faith of the English, and should ratify all the arrangements previously sanctioned by them. He was to honour the British guarantee pledged to the money-lenders, was to accept unchallenged any concessions accorded to the tributary chiefs by the English, and was to receive ungrudgingly a minister holding a guarantee from their government. The Gaekwad, in short, undertook to accept, without any reserve, all the obligations contracted by the English Government with the money-lenders, who, acting on the strength mainly of their security, had been prevailed upon to lend large sums to the Gaekwad at the time when the Arab Jamadars were disbanded. He also pledged his word to respect the British guarantee, wherever it had been substituted for previously subsisting promises of the Arabs (1820). At this period the Gaekwad's Government had run into heavy liabilities; the debts which it had incurred had come up to the alarming total, of ten millions of rupees. To pay off such debts the British Government induced six well-known capitalists to offer handsome loans to the Gaekwad, undertaking at the same time to stand surety for the sums so lent. In lieu of the amount so borrowed, the Gaekwad bound himself to set aside annually a sum of 15 *lakhs* of rupees, for

the purpose of repayment. The undertaking, however was not rigidly observed, and debts were allowed to run on unabated, till at last the British authorities sent an intimation to Sayaji Rao Gaekwad, requesting him to transfer into their possession several districts till all the outstanding debts had been completely paid up by them. The Gaekwad, however, did not comply with this demand and the result was that the British officers violently laid their hands on the Baroda territories, and placed under attachment the districts of Petlad, Kadi, Vyara, Dabhoi, Sankheda, Bahadurpur, Sinor, Amreli, Damnagar and Shiyanaagar; they as well attached the Gaekwad's tribute to be levied from the States of Kathiawad, Mahi Kantha, Rajpipla, Chhota Udeypur and the small States in the Sankheda-Mewas. The attachment lasted till the year 1832, when the British Government succeeded in effecting a compromise between the Gaekwad and the capitalists, and having settled their claims to some extent, they finally revoked their suretyship and raised the attachment from the Gaekwad's territories. It was also agreed in 1828, that the Gaekwad should no longer send his own mounted emissaries into Kathiawad and Mahi Kantha for raising the tribute, without the express permission of the British authorities, who undertook to raise it for him every year. In accordance with the terms of the agreement of 1817, the Gaekwad had also stipulated to maintain a subsidiary militia, numbering three thousand disciplined troops on its roll; but the soldiers retained by him were now found to be totally inefficient and incapable of bearing arms with credit; whereupon he was asked by the British Resident to maintain at least one third of the force in constant readiness for military service on the shortest notice; but all these directions and exhortations remained unheeded, when at last his dominions yielding an annual income of 15 *lakhs* were again sequestrated. In 1832, however, the Gaekwad expressed his desire to come to terms, and agreed to deposit yearly a sum of ten *lakhs* with the British Government, for the purpose of defraying the military expenditure of the subsidiary contingent. From that date, moreover, the demeanour of the Gaekwad towards the British power was of a very unsatisfactory nature, and it was feared that the old intimacy between the two powers would shortly be terminated for ever. In consequence, the district of Petlad, yielding an annual income of 732,000 rupees, was at once resumed under attachment, and Sayaji Rao was expressly made to understand that in case of his perversely thwarting the wishes of the Paramount power

he would have to suffer for his obstinacy and would at once be deposed in favour of some other member of the Gaekwad's family. A party of "*Shikandari Sawar*" or "Gujarat Irregular Horse" was then raised to be maintained from the revenues of Petlad, and a final message was despatched to the Gaekwad in 1840, asking him to retain in his service regular horse to the amount of 1500 men. In reply to this, however, he pleaded that this mandate was in direct contravention of the agreement of 1817; though the terms of that alliance had on many occasions been virtually broken in effect by him, through his persistently hostile and unfriendly attitude towards the British power. Thereupon, the treaty of 1817 was revived with some alterations and important changes; it was resolved that the Gaekwad should cede an annual sum of three hundred thousand rupees to cover the expenses of maintaining three thousand mounted troops; that this regiment of horse was to render service in the dominions of the tributary chiefs; and that the Gaekwad should have the authority of using his discretion in reducing this force to half the number on suitable occasions of peace. When faithful observance of the terms of this engagement on the part of the Gaekwad had been secured beyond doubt, the district of Petlad was released from attachment and returned to the Gaekwad, who also reobtained his deposit of one million of rupees mentioned above.

The closing years of this not very eventful reign were marked by an interesting episode of social importance, which again conspired to bring on British interference with the internal affairs of the State. A citizen from the Ratnagiri district died, at this period in 1840, at Baroda, and his weeping wife burnt herself alive on the funeral pyre of her deceased lord, a sad and lingering remnant of the barbarous practice of suttee or self-immolation, that was fast dying out. The Gaekwad did nothing to prevent this inhuman act of self-sacrifice; upon which the British Political Commissioner strongly urged upon him the imperative necessity of suppressing this hard-hearted custom, that had no shade of sanction of any positive religion. From this date the practice of enforced suttee was for ever put down in all the parts of the district of Gujarat.

Sayaji Rao Gaekwad was now approaching his end, and expired in 1847. He left three sons to mourn his loss,—Ganpat Rao, Khande Rao and Malhar Rao, of whom Ganpat Rao, the heir-apparent, ascended the hereditary *gadi* at Baroda. Sayaji Rao also left behind him a large family, which for

a time supplied the state with the most prominent grandees in the realm.*

Ganpat Rao Gaekwad was thirty years old at the time of his installation, and the chief control of affairs was lodged in the hands of his far-sighted and astute minister, Bhau Trambekar. The Dewan, however, could not pull on well with Colonel James Outram, the British Resident at the period, and there were frequent occasions of serious altercation and political difference between these representatives of two different powers, whose interests often clashed with each other. Col. Outram exerted his utmost to suppress the dishonest and criminal practice of giving and receiving bribes and other diverse illegal acts of extortion on the part of the state officials; but this act of intervention in the affairs of the State, however well-meant, was not relished by the authorities at the head of the British Government, and in consequence he was finally removed from the office of the Resident by the orders of Lord Falkland, the then Governor of Bombay. In despair he repaired to England, where before the Board of the East India Company, he advocated the justice of his cause with such good effect, that the Directors warmly eulogised him for his skill, and re-appointed him to the post of the Resident at the Court of Baroda. He retained this office for a few days, and was subsequently transferred to Lucknow, as the British Resident at that Court. The dispute between Colonel Outram and Bhau Trambekar, the premier, had however given rise to many minor political feuds and internal jealousies, which plunged the whole State into turmoil and confusion; to remedy which it was finally resolved in 1853, that the Resident at Baroda should sever all his connections with the Governor of Bombay, and should be placed directly under the control of the Bengal Government. This arrangement continued to work unobstructed till the Mutiny in 1857. Ganpat Rao Gaekwad

* At the present day there are no surviving descendants in the line of Anand Rao or Fattah Singh Rao—brothers of Sayaji Rao Gaekwad. This chief had married two wives; (1) Chimna Bai and (2) Girja Bai; by the first of whom he had five sons and four daughters, and by the latter he had one son and two daughters. The following are the names of the several children by Chimna Bai,—sons, (1) Gayaji Rao, who died an infant; (2) Ganpat Rao, who ruled for nine years; (3) Khande Rao; ruled for 14 years; [4] Malhar Rao, who occupied the *gadi* for about four years, and [5] Anand Rao who died a minor. Daughters:—(1) Baji Bai, who married Vyankat Rao Ghorpade Datavarkar. (2) Baiji Bai, married to Tukaji Rao Kadam [3] Ganga Bai, married to Gangaji Rao Khanvelker, and [4] Reva Bai, married to Khase Rao Kadam.

Girja Bai's progeny, —[1] Yeshvant Rao, who died in 1846; (2) Gurja Bai, married to Dashroji Raje Shirke, and (3) Jamna Bai, who was married to Khase Rao Pawar Devaskar.

entertained views which were diametrically opposed to those of his deceased father, and the relations between the father and the son during the life-time of the former had, by no means, been of an amicable character. He had even gone to the length of planning a conspiracy for the deposition of his father, and was found implicated in several dark plots, all compassing his father's ruin. This circumstance, joined to the fact that he was totally illiterate and was merely a tool in the hands of his crafty ministers, highly offended Col. Outram, who was very unfavourably prejudiced against the new Gaekwad. His literary imbecility had gone to such an amazing pitch that the British Resident Col. French is said to have been astonished at his ignorance, and he seriously recommended the Maharaja to learn to read at any personal sacrifice. At the same time he presented to the Maharaja a mechanical Steam Engine as a fair specimen of what Western learning and science could achieve. This chief had only one son; but he, too, had expired at the time his father ascended the *gadi* in 1847. Two years later, the infamous practice of buying and selling minors and carrying on an illicit trade in infants was effectually suppressed. The rule of the Gaekwad was further ennobled by another useful and humane reform, set on foot in the year 1856, by which the barbarous practice of dealing in slaves was put down with an iron hand. The same year was noted for another memorable event of historic and commercial importance; for the first sod of the Bombay Baroda and Central India Railway was turned in this year, and soon the Iron Horse was seen plying its weary way, dragging a host of countless passengers and immense traffic on its back. The Gaekwad, for this purpose, transferred to the Railway Company all the necessary land that lay within his dominions, free of all compensation, reserving to himself only the right of levying duties over all foreign imports. The right of trying all criminal offences perpetrated on the Railway lines running through the Gaekwad's territories was also vested in the hands of the British Resident at Baroda.

The 19th day of November, 1856, witnessed the death of Gaupat Rao Gaekwad, at a small village of the name of Khanpur, on the banks of the river Mahi. He died, all of a sudden, owing to the evil effects of excessive and hard drinking, and his death was shrouded in such a mystery that various suspicious gossips were afloat as to the cause of his sudden demise. As he

left no male issue* after him, Khande Rao—his brother, ascended the throne on the 12th December 1856.

Soon after Khande Rao's accession to the *gadi*, the whole of the continent was involved in serious trouble by the great Rebellion of 1857. This social and political epidemic, which was violently raging in the North, had extended its contagious effects even to the distant province of Gujarat, and public security in the district was endangered in the extreme by the desperate attempts of some ambitious spirits. One Bapu Saheb, a cadet of the house of the Gaekwad, and who was at the time a state prisoner at Ahmedabad was all the while brewing mischief, and at his instigation several regiments of the Ahmedabad grenadiers rose up in revolt, intent upon plundering that prosperous and flourishing city. At the same time several bands of aboriginal Koolies, from the banks of the Mahi, were menacing the poor, law-abiding ryots in the vicinity of Baroda. On this occasion Khande Rao Gaekwad right loyally assisted, with all his might, the English government in the arduous task of suppressing the mutiny and preserving the peace of the country inviolate. The rebels were dispersed and Bapu Saheb was expelled from Ahmedabad, whence he was transferred in chains to Surat. The dire effects of the great mutiny, however, had ramified through all the districts to such an extent that it took some time before they could be completely purged from the province of Gujarat. The rebellion numbered distinguished men and women on its roll, and even the eminent Baiza Bai of Indore had some secret share in the wire-pulling. Khande Rao Maharaj, however, strictly maintained amicable and friendly relations with his old allies, the English; and generously extended every help towards quelling the general disorder. Gujarat was, therefore, to a great extent, spared from the destructive consequences, that attend every such forcible and violent suppression of a mighty upheaval. On this occasion the old connection of the Baroda State with the Bombay Government was again restored, the recent direct control of the Bengal Government having been terminated. In recognition of

* Ganpat Rao had married five wives by whom he had several children. By Guja Bai he had one daughter—Santu Bai who was wedded to Santaji Rao Bhonsle. By Bhagirathi Bai he had no issue. He had three daughters born of Gajara Bai—(1) Khushi Bai married to Shivaji Maharaj of Karvir,—(2) Baba Bai married to Narasinh Rao Dhayabar and (3) Tani Bai married to Jagdeo Rao Jagtap. By Narmada Bai, he had only one daughter Kamalja Bai married to Nana Saheb Pawar. Radha Bai, the last of his consorts was barren.

Khande Rao's valuable co-operation in the task of putting down the great insurrection, he was decorated with the Knighthood of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India. As he loyally stood by the British Government in their troubles, he also received from the paramount power a rich gift in the shape of a magnificent *Morchhal* (peacock--fan). The salute of nineteen guns fired in honour of previous Gaekwads was, also, enhanced to 21, as a special mark of distinction. The Gaekwad was, also, exempted from any further payment in future of the annual sum of 3,00,000 rupees, which he had in 1841, undertaken to pay for the maintenance of the Baroda Irregular horse.

Hardly had the blood, so profusely spilt in the suppression of the great Rebellion, dried up on the swordblades of the English cavaliers, when there were fresh troubles of an alarming kind in the Gaekwad's dominions. Maganlal, a Bania inhabitant of the village of Bijapur, belonging to the Gaekwad had been for some time carrying on seditious correspondence with a jeweller, named Nahalchund, residing at the capital, and their deep-laid plots were all aimed at reviving the horrors of the Mutiny in the district of Gujarat. The ostensive shape which their conspiracy assumed was to incite all the Koolies, Bhils and other aboriginal mischievous tribes of the Mewas, and the north of Gujarat, and instigate them to take up arms against the supreme power. The British Government sent a detachment of English soldiers against the rebels, who were all put to flight and the ringleaders were captured. These felons were tried by a Court-martial and their guilt having been satisfactorily established, they died an ignominious death at the cannon's mouth, on the outskirts of Bijapur. At this trial, Trimbak Rao Shastri was deputed by the Gaekwad to serve on the jury and watch over the interests of his State. In 1858, the Arms' Act was passed, by which all the inhabitants of Hindustan were to be disarmed, and in accordance with that act, the residents of Gujarat were all deprived of their arms in that very year. The Bhils in the north of Gujarat, however, emphatically declined to lay down their weapons and threatened to involve the whole district in fresh perils. Khande Rao Gaekwad, with the active support of a British regiment, at last succeeded in compelling them to surrender their arms. The Gaekwad also, in 1859, set apart several lands for the laying of Railways, and transferred them for the purpose to the Bombay Baroda and Central India Railway Company, reserving certain rights in his favour. There was a vast increase to the fiscal resources of the State, owing to the extension

of these Railways. It was in 1860, that the first Railway train ran from Bombay to Ahmedabad.

Khande Rao was strong in mind and body, and excessively fond of hunting, and he had such a passion for the pleasures of the chase that he knew no fatigue in the exciting pursuit of the game. His martial qualities were displayed to great advantage in the year 1858, on the occasion of the rising of the Waghers in the Okhamandal district, in Kathiawad. The Waghers under the pretext that they did not regularly receive the grants of annuities from the State, and with the avowed object of vindicating their legitimate rights, rose up in arms in that year, and instantly seized the small island, which goes by the name of "Bet," situated near Dwarka. The Gaekwad, however, sued the English for help, and with their support he soon reduced the island, repulsed the rebels with great loss, and wrenched from them all their recent gains. Khande Rao, however, had equally a bad side to his character and History records a very cruel and sanguinary instance of the barbarous love he entertained for shedding blood. At the Gaekwad's Court there were two Mahomedan Umrahs, Annu Miya and Jamu Miya, who, for the meritorious services they had rendered to the predecessors of Khande Rao, had received in gift the revenues of the district of Kheralu. Dost Mahomed, better known by the familiar name of Dosu Miya, was, contemporary of Khande Rao, and was in the enjoyment of this *Jagir* in his time,—having sprung from the line of Jamu Miya, the original donee. This spirited youth had dared to harbour in his own house a concubine, who was in the keeping of Khande Rao himself, and the Maharaja was highly incensed at this act of effrontery on the part of his Umrah. He sent a peremptory message for her restoration, but the royal mandate was returned dishonoured and disobeyed. For this act of presumptuous disobedience, Dosu Miya and his mistress were both cast into a dungeon, where the unfortunate woman was starved to death with draughts of ' *Kanjee* ' alone, without any other nutritious ration. Dost Mahomed was more fortunate and escaped with his life after four years' imprisonment in the jail. Three of his other associates, however, met with a very cruel punishment. These, his comrades in guilt, were all barbarously put to death, after being made to undergo extreme humiliation. One was crushed under the feet of an elephant, another was triumphantly exhibited throughout the town, seated on a donkey's back, and then ruthlessly put to the sword, and the third was mercilessly tortured to death, his entire frame being pierced with numerous swordcuts. The cruel sentence thus dealt out

raised a murmur of dis-satisfaction throughout the length and breadth of the country, and general public dis-approval was manifested in the uproar raised by the press against the barbarity of such modes of punishment. The Government of India had to interfere on this occasion, and they strictly prohibited the Gaekwad from ever recurring in future to such savage exhibitions of inhumanity.

Khande Rao Gaekwad had the good fortune of possessing an able minister in the person of Govind Rao Pandurang Rodhe. The Dewan had ample experience in the affairs of the State, and was an adept in the game of political diplomacy. He instituted many admirable reforms in the revenue and judicial departments of the realm, and brought the administration of the civil and criminal laws on a very satisfactory footing. He was honest and disinclined to all corrupt practices, in which the other officers of the State were so well-versed. The probity of his character, however, brought him into hot waters with Narayan Bhau Shinde, another magnate of the realm. He was an esteemed favourite of the Gaekwad, and had risen from a very humble status to the eminent and exalted rank of the generalissimo of the Gaekwad's forces. His royal master anxiously desired to see him put on the Dewan's robes, and in consequence, after a good deal of intrigues and petty machinations, Bhau Shinde was installed in the office of the Dewan, and Rodhe was compelled to retire, 1867. The British Government, however, entertained no good opinion of Shine's ability or his honesty, and under their pressure, therefore, he was soon removed from that responsible post. The favourite was, however, retained as a private adviser and a personal companion of the Gaekwad. Subsequently the Dewan's office was successively held by Gopal Rao Mairal, Hariba Gaekwad and lastly by Limbaji Rao Dhole.

Khande Rao Gaekwad was passionately fond of wrestling and other athletic sports. For his own amusement he often arranged to have bull-fights and other mock combats between wild and furious beasts. He spent thousands of rupees on such feats and games, and his bounty in awarding prizes to the successful competitors never failed; the least reward ever given on no occasion fell, it is said, below one thousand rupees. His unrivalled magnificence and liberality evoked wide-spread applause in the populace. As the unhealthy climate of Baroda did not agree with his constitution he ordered a beautiful palace to be constructed at a small village, named Makarapura, three miles distant from the city, and this elegant mansion still

continues to be the country--residence of the Gaekwads. The business of the State was constantly transacted by him, while residing in this palace, and he had grown so excessively fond of this rural seat that he thought of establishing his capital at the neighbouring little village, and of transferring the seat of his Government there. He could not, however, succeed in carrying out his wish in defiance of the public voice. The Government had a good opinion of the Gaekwad's abilities and other admirable qualities of his person, and in appreciation of his fidelity to the British throne they granted to him a Sanad, authorizing him to adopt an heir, in case he had none born of his own limbs, in accordance with the dictates of the Hindu *Shastras* and without the payment of a large *Nazarana* being made, a condition precedent to the exercise of this power. Khande Rao was of a wanton inexorable and fiery temperament. His uncontrollable anger had on many occasions brought on unpleasant scenes with his brother, Malhar Rao alias Dada Saheb; and his antipathy towards him was so strong and confirmed that he was ordered to be confined as a State-prisoner, at the neighbouring village of Padra, throughout the life-time of the reigning Gaekwad. For the Hindu religion he was staunch to bigotry; but his orthodoxy had no deep foundation, for on one occasion, it is said, he thought of sending a magnificent sheet as his tribute to the Shrine of the Prophet at Mecca, and actually ordered one to be prepared, studded all over with diamonds, pearls, and other matchless jewels, involving an expenditure of several millions. He had not the satisfaction, however, of seeing his priceless gift being actually sent to Arabastan, for before he could do so he was cut off by the cruel hand of Fate. On the 20th of November 1870, Khande Rao bade a loving adieu to his friends and relations, to his fortunes and his throne, and to the world at large from which he was departing, and expired leaving no issue behind him to inherit his pomp and power. Limbaji Rao. Dhole—the commander-in-chief, who was then acting as the Dewan, in place of Bhau Shinde, who had been removed from the office at the desire of the Viceroy, lost no time in communicating the intelligence of the Gaekwad's death to the Resident, and also apprised him of the custom that the body of the deceased Gaekwad would not be cremated, unless a successor to his *gadi* was proclaimed to the world at large. At this juncture, Colonel Barr the then Resident at the Court, sanctioned the recall of Malhar Rao—the brother of the deceased chief, from his confinement at Padra. Limbaji-Rao proceeded to the village, and escorted Malhar Rao to Baroda with all the

honours due to his altered position. On entering the city, Malhar Rao was proclaimed as the new Gaekwad, and the corpse of his departed brother was carried to the funeral pyre. Jamna Bai-his widow,* was however *enceinte* at that time, and Malhar Rao, with the approval of the Resident, directed the helm of affairs only as the Regent for the time being. When the Queen-Dowager was about to be confined, she was sent over to the Resident's Bungalow at the Baroda cantonment by the orders of the Supreme Government so as effectually to prevent all intrigues about the birth, and bring the parentage of the offspring into clear light, without the least cloud of suspicion. The Bungalow was securely guarded on all sides by English sentinels and other trusted emissaries of Malhar Rao, who all kept a vigilant eye on the lying-in chamber. On the 5th of July 1871, Jamna Bai gave birth to a little well-developed princess, who was named Tara Bai.

Malhar Rao was born in 1832, and was the fifth son of the late Sayaji Rao Gaekwad. When that chief died in 1847, the hereditary *gadi* had descended to Ganpat Rao, the heir-apparent. In 1856, he was succeeded on the throne by his brother Khande Rao Gaekwad. That prince had, as we have seen above, loyally and faithfully stood by the British Government amidst their troubles at the time of the great Mutiny in 1857. Malhar Rao, his brother, had, however on that occasion manifested no friendly feelings towards the British Government. On the contrary his attitude towards the Paramount Power had by no means been free from extreme suspicion, and the intriguing chief was suspected of a design to collect all the Bhils and Koolies from Bijapur and Mahi Kantha under his banner and with them to lead an attack on the city of Ahmedabad. He was also accused of conspiring against his brother Khande Rao, with a view to surprize him at his capital, depose him from the throne, and usurp the ancestral *gadi* for himself.

To investigate these charges an inquiry was held by a British officer, named Sir Richard Shakespear; but the Resident sided with the chief, who was for the time excused all his faults on the ground of defective reason. In 1863, however, he was arraigned on a fresh charge of attempting to poison his brother Khande Rao, and of scheming to hasten his death by

* Khande Rao had married three wives, by whom he had three daughters. Savitri Bai-his senior wife had given birth to Hansa Bai, married to Tatya Saheb Dhayabar. Amba Bai, the second wife, had a daughter of the name of Manju Bai, married to Khase Rao Shirke; and Jamna Bai, the junior wife, gave birth to a posthumous daughter, named Tara Bai, married to Raghunath Rao, the Sir Desai of Savantwadi.

the mystical power of Magic and with the aid of other supernatural agencies. These charges were tried before a British officer, of the name of Colonel Wallace, who again let him off on the ground of imbecility, though he was morally satisfied of his guilt and was able to collect strong and conclusive testimony to support a conviction. From that date he was kept as a state-prisoner, confined within the walls of Padra; and his colleagues were all batchered to death by the orders of his injured brother. Malhar Rao's intrigues, however, did not terminate with the loss of his liberty; for, even from his confinement, four years later, he actively participated in another conspiracy raised against his brother's life. His movements, therefore, were of necessity vigilantly guarded and jealously watched, though during later years the stringency was visibly relaxed and greater freedom was allowed to him. He was supplied with ample means to cover the charges of his maintenance and other religious and charitable expenses. In this plight he dragged out seven years of his life, a prisoner at Padra, till at last in 1870, the death of Khande Rao Gaekwad, and the summons of Colonel Barr, the Resident, transported him for the prison to the palace at Baroda. On Malhar Rao's installation on the throne, his old comrades were all brought out from the dungeon, and the partisans of the late Khande Rao were, in their turn, summarily dismissed from the responsible posts, which they had, till then, filled at the head of the Government. The Premier's portfolio was snatched from the hands of Bhau Sinde, who was compelled to retire and subsequently thrust into the jail on some trumped up charge. His house-hold was plundered and his property confiscated to the state on some false pretext or other. The ex-minister died in prison, and his death came off under such suspicious circumstances that its immediate cause remains to this day shrouded in total mystery.

Malhar Rao Gaekwad then nominated Gopal Rao Mairal-a wealthy gentleman of a reputable character, as his Prime minister. The new Dewan had a very good and kind heart, and in his multifarious dealings never swerved from correct principles of honesty and rectitude; but owing to his old and decrepit age, he had passed beyond the period of youthful activity, and his feebleness thus obstructed the proper discharge of his arduous duties. The prestige, however, which he enjoyed among the subjects was so high, and the confidence he inspired amongst them, so strong, that during his life-time at least, the wanton and self-willed Gaekwad had to curb his license within definite restraints. After him, however, the Dewanship descended to

One Nana Saheb Khanvelkar, a favourite associate of the reigning prince. He, with Hariba Gaekwad, enjoyed implicit confidence of the monarch, and their administration was marked by horrible acts of oppression and tyranny. The State became a hot-bed of intrigues, and the general prosperity of the people suffered. At the outset of this Gaekwad's regime, the subjects were in the enjoyment of felicitous times of peace and prosperity, general order and security; several oppressive taxes and obnoxious dues had been repealed, and the State had been generously extending liberal support towards many religious and charitable institutions, towards sinking wells at places suffering from scarcity of water, and constructing commodious river-ghats for bathing, for the general comfort and convenience of the populace. But times had changed with the accession of Damodar Panth to power. This last-named courtier was a much cherished favourite of the Gaekwad, and ministered to his infernal lust. He proved a faithless traitor to his master, whose interests he sacrificed to his own, and was the chief instrument of seducing his patron into evil ways and corrupt practices. The patriarchal monarch, generally regarded as the father of his loving subjects, now, looked upon their wives and daughters with an eye of unrestrained lust, and forgetful of his kingly duties, he often attempted to violate their chastity. The terror inspired by the satyriacal propensities of this infamous chief was so strong and wide-spread that modest matrons of a reputable character could not dare walk in the high streets, even in broad day light; and there were frequent occasions of some handsome but unfortunate women, who chanced to come across the evil eyes of the lascivious chief or his wretched myrmidons, who were hunting for beauty, being shamelessly outraged by the prince and his cronies. The luxuries of the profligate prince were pampered at an enormous sacrifice of the interests of the poor people, to whose annoyance and sufferings on account of this crying grievance there was no end. By his orders a spacious and elegant palace was erected in the midst of a magnificent park, on the site of several houses of private citizens, which were razed to the ground for the purpose; their only fault being that they were situated within a convenient distance from his ancestral mansions, habited by the preceding Gaekwads. The oppressed subjects were much disaffected, and there was such a wide-spread murmur of dissatisfaction that the tyrant, suspecting danger from every quarter, could find no scope even for gratifying his lust, and enjoying the sweets of his throne in peace. He was now molested even by his own family people, who had a cause for excessive rage in the fact that their annuities were in many cases diminished, and in some even sus-

pendent. Jamna Bai, the Queen-dowager, also suffered from this reduction in her annual grant, and she at once repaired to Poona to protest against such wholesale spoliation. At this juncture there was a change in the Residency, and Colonel Phayre, the new officer appointed at the Court of Baroda, promised redress to the sufferers, and invited the complainants to lodge with him their statement of grievances. Heaps of Gaekwad's iniquities were soon transmitted to the India Government, and a commission of inquiry was promptly appointed, under the presidentship of Colonel Meade. The report of the commission emphasised the fact that the whole State had been rotten to the core, and it would be impossible that the prevailing disorder could be remedied by a chief, of the capacities of the reigning Gaekwad. They, also, recommended that Malhar Rao should be asked to appoint, without delay, an able and strong minister at the helm of affairs, and that the Resident should, also, be empowered to interfere with the affairs of the State, on some momentous exigencies. Acting upon this report the Supreme Government sent an *ultimatum* calling upon Malhar Rao Gaekwad to set right all the internal derangements, and restore order in the State, within a period of eighteen months. All the plans of amelioration and reform, however, failed, notwithstanding the fact that the Gaekwad had at this time several clever, capable, and experienced officers under him, at the head of various departments. The premier's chair was then graced by Professor Dada Bhai Naoroji, who now graces the benches at St. Stephen's, representing the interests of central Finsbury in the House of Commons; and he had with him as his lieutenants, Bala Mangesh, Hormusji Wadia, Barrister-at-law, Kazi Shahab-ud-Din, and Pestonji Jehangirji, names of known repute in Gujarat. Even the selfwilled Gaekwad had at this time a mind to improve his ways, and act in accordance with the well-meant advice of the Government; but the extreme prejudice of Colonel Phayre against him, coupled with the thoughtlessness also of the prince, hampered all progress and obstructed all schemes of reform. At last the minister—Dada Bhai, had even to report to the Supreme Government, requesting them to recall Col. Phayre, who was represented to have been playing the part simply of an obstructionist. Meanwhile in 1873, a rumour was afloat that the Gaekwad was straining every nerve to get the Resident poisoned, through his secret emissaries, who had somehow managed to creep into the Colonel's household; and such was the commotion which this allegation excited in Indian society, that the Resident was at once transferred from Baroda, and Sir Louis Pelly was promptly deputed to that Court, with the title of Agent to the Governor-

General of India. From that date the Baroda State was again removed from the control of the Bombay Government, and placed directly under the sway of the Viceroy. Colonel Phayre, the Resident, had on the eve of his recall sent over a cup of syrup, which he was about to take, to Dr. Seward for chemical analysis. The doctor examined its contents and reported that it contained particles of arsenic, a small quantity of powdered diamond, and other poisonous drugs. The general suspicion that the Colonel's life was in jeopardy and imminent peril thus gained ground and was confirmed beyond doubt. All eyes were suspiciously turned towards Malhar Rao, and the source of all mischief was traced to his doors. To investigate into this charge, Sir Frank Souter, the Police Commissioner of Bombay, and Gajanan Vithal, the Police Inspector of Ahmedabad, were specially appointed, and they at once came down to Baroda for the purpose of collecting evidence. The preliminary inquiry was conducted with due secrecy and caution, and at its termination *prima facie* grounds of the Maharaja's guilt were clearly brought to light. On the 13th January 1875, Sir Louis Pelly * issued a general proclamation for the arrest of the Gaekwad, who was then kept in close custody within the British cantonment. After a lapse of about two months a special commission was appointed to hold the trial of the royal offender. Sir Richard Couch acted as the President of the Commission, which numbered amongst its members several other distinguished men, as Mr. Melville, Sir Richard Meade, Maharaja Ram Singh of Jaipur, Maharaja Jayaji Rao Sindhia and Raja Sir Dinkar Rao. Malhar Rao Gaekwad engaged the services of Sergeant Ballantyne, a celebrated counsel of established repute in England, to conduct his defence, and spent a *lakh* of rupees for the purpose. The trial was conducted in open court for full twenty two days, during which the Sergeant ably advocated the cause of the luckless chief. At the close of the commission, the members reported their opinions to the Supreme Government; the three European Commissioners returned a unanimous verdict of guilty, while the native element with equal unanimity negatived that verdict, and exculpated the Gaekwad from all guilt. The difference of opinion thus created amongst the six Commissioners greatly perplexed Lord Northbrook, the Viceroy, who was thus placed in a very awkward situation, and was at a loss to decide what course he was then to adopt. He, however, recommended to the Home Government to accord the benefit of the doubt to the prisoner;

* Sir Louis Pelly during his stay at Baroda, was always styled "Special Commissioner and Agent to the Governor-General."

but Lord Salisbury the Secretary of State for India at the time, was less favourably inclined towards the Gaekwad. He deemed Malhar Rao Gaekwad, absolutely unfit for the responsible duties of his regal office, and considering the sheer mismanagement that characterised his administration of the State, as well as his persistent and obstinate adherence to his corrupt ways of life, in spite of constant and repeated warnings to the contrary, he issued final orders for Malhar Rao's deposition from the throne. On the receipt of this order Malhar Rao Gaekwad was, on the 22nd of April 1875, secretly transported to Madras, and was conveyed in a special train, direct from the old Railway Station in the British Cantonment.

Human affliction, however, well-deserved always inspires us with pity, and the unfortunate Malhar Rao, accordingly, became an object of general compassion, when the diadem was thus rudely torn off his brow. Though during his regime, his despotic rule had successfully conspired with his abandoned life, in the task of alienating the hearts of his people, the awful retribution which finally overtook him wrought general commiseration in the hearts of his meek and loving subjects. This sympathy for the fallen chief went so far that on the 28th April 1875, several ignorant, rash and sentimental spirits rose up in revolt. They closed their shops, proclaimed a general strike, and mustered in vast numbers to vindicate the honour of the throne, which had been so daringly and grossly abused. Jayaji Rao, an infant son of the deposed chief, was then proclaimed as the next Gaekwad, and the gates of the city were all closed by the insurgents, to prevent any interference on the part of the British authorities from without. A British detachment was, however, soon despatched from the cantonment; the gates were forced open and the rising immediately crushed. With a view to prevent a further recurrence of the trouble, the two wives of Malhar Rao, Malsa Bai and Lakshmi Bai, as well as Jayaji Rao, his infant son, were all sent over to Madras to enliven the solitude of the unhappy chief.*

* Jayaji Rao was the first to die at Madras and after him, on the noon of the 26th of July 1882, Malhar Rao expired from the effects of dysentery. His malady had progressed so far that the doctors in attendance had pronounced his case to be hopelessly incurable. To nurse him in his last illness, Malsa Bai and Lakshmi Bai, his consorts, were there by the side of his sick-bed at the time; but Kama Bai, his daughter, was only summoned from Baroda, by a telegraphic message, to tend her dying parent, during his last hours. When telegrams, conveying the news of Malhar Rao's death, reached Baroda, extreme sympathy was felt for this hapless chief in the hearts of the entire populace in the city as well as in the whole province of Gujarat. The two widows then returned from their exile and settled in their own native province of Gujarat, and the present enlightened sovereign

When Malhar Rao was thus deposed, the British Government authorised Jamna Bai, the widow of the late Khande Rao Gaekwad, to take a son in adoption to her deceased lord. A search was directed to be made into all the corners of the province for a suitable and youthful prince, who would thus be an heir to the power and the fortunes of Khande Rao. At last the British authorities laid their finger on three young princes, in Khandesh, the children of one Kashi Rao, an obscure descendant, sprung from the line of Pratap Rao, the third son of Pilaji Rao Gaekwad—the founder of the State. Of the three princes—Anand Rao, Gopal Rao, and Sampat Rao, the fortunate Gopal Rao, then aged only twelve years, was selected, and the 27th of May 1875, *i. e.*, the 7th day of Vaishakh Sud Samvat 1931, the Agent to the Governor-General, on behalf of the Paramount Power gave him in adoption to Jamna Bai—the Queen-mother, with all the sacred rites prescribed by the Hindu *Shastras*. The adopted prince had his name altered into that of Sayaji Rao, and with this appellation, he ascended the throne in 1875. During his minority, however, the administration of the State was ably carried on by that astute statesman, Raja, Sir T. Madhav Rao. For six years the young Maharaja received liberal education, and a thorough training in all the branches of state-craft, directly under British supervision, and at their close, on the 18th of December 1881, Sayaji Rao Gaekwad was proclaimed an independent monarch, and the entire administration was vested in his hands by Sir James Fergusson, the Governor of Bombay, who represented the Viceroy at the ceremonial on that occasion. There were great rejoicings and festivities at Baroda at that auspicious moment, and hundreds of native and European guests were invited to witness the interesting ceremony. They all spent a merry Christmas at Baroda, enjoying the many delightful *fetes*, shows and amusing spectacles that were

Sayaji Rao Gaekwad, with a generous heart extends his sympathy and affection to them and conducts himself, in relation to them, in a way best calculated to soothe their anguish and console them in their woe. It is said that Malhar Rao during his exile at Madras led a very melancholy and sedate life; he joined no festivity, nor took part in any revelry. For months and years no smile played upon his once frolicsome lips; and for a month previous to his demise he suffered from acute dysentery. He saw that his end was approaching and declined to take all medicine. With all his faults he was liberal and generous hearted. He was a lover of learning and it was during his regime that the Education department at Baroda, which now thrives so well was founded on a secure basis. Several wells, tanks and bathing ghats were also constructed by him and many religious endowments were continued during his rule.

held in their honour by the hospitality of their kind-hearted host. A fine little Arts' Exhibition was also opened at the time in the small building, which, was known by the name of the Maharaja's school, adjoining the Moti Bag palace; where upwards of five thousand exhibits, representing beautiful specimens of arts and handicrafts were collected and arranged in nineteen different sections.

Wednesday, the 28th of December, was fixed for handing over the reins of government to Sayaji Rao Gaekwad, and before eight in the morning of that auspicious day several European and native gentlemen, Sirdars and wealthy Shahukars had taken their seats in the spacious compound of the Nazar Bag palace. His Excellency Sir James Fergusson, escorted the Maharaja to the elegant *dais* specially erected for the purpose, and there read aloud the proclamation of the Viceroy, by which the entire administration was transferred to the hands of the youthful Maharaja. The Governor in his speech gave expression to several weighty thoughts, of "great pith and moment," as a sort of advice to the rising prince, who was entering upon his life's career. He said that the days had long passed by when even mighty emperors could, with impunity, regard their subjects and the State as so many instruments to contribute mainly to their own pleasures and enjoyments; that sovereignty had far higher and nobler ends to pursue than the simple gratification of personal wants and selfish aims; that the good of the State and the welfare of the citizens were to be the goals of a King's ambition and that the responsibilities attached to the crown were by no means small; that the trusts reposed in sovereigns, who had the power to abuse them, as well as the means to improve them, would verily press down with a dead weight upon their conscience, but that a conscientious discharge of the regal functions would inevitably bear good fruit in the end; only that in order to be sure of such a rich harvest, the monarch should scrupulously abstain from practices that would be a source of pain to others and hamper his own usefulness to the world at large.

In response to such an edifying exhortation the Maharaja in suitable terms acknowledged his gratitude to the Paramount power, and promised to act in accordance with the sound advice then imparted; and one is happy to note that the Maharaja's subsequent conduct from the throne has always been directed to the good of his subjects.

On the 1st of January 1877, on the occasion of the assumption of the title of "Kaisar-i-Hind" by the Queen-Empress, Sayaji Rao Gaekwad was invited to the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi, where to the many ances-

tral titles--"Shrimant Sarkar, Sena Khas Khel, Samsher Bahadur, which had been bequeathed to him by his forefathers, a further addition was made by the grant of an honorific distinction, "Farzand-i-Khas, Daulat-i-Englishia"--to his person. At the same time his faithful minister, Sir T. Madhav Rao, was decorated with the personal title of "Raja"; Vinayak Rao Janardan Kirtane, the Naib Dewan, was created a "Rao Bahadur," and Mir Kamal-ud-Din Husain Khan, the Chief Sirdar of the State, Kazi Shahab-ud-Din, the Sir Suba, Pestonji Jehangirji, the Settlement Commissioner, and Kharshedji Rustamji, the Chief Justice of the State, all received the personal distinction of "Khan Bahadur," and were awarded beautiful medals to commemorate the happy event.

In early years, the Thagee-convicts, who were arrested within the Gaekwad's dominions were placed for their trial before the Judicial authorities at Abu or Indore, but in 1877, the Resident at the Baroda Cantonment was vested with full jurisdiction to try such offences. In that very year a marble statue of Lord Northbrook G. C. S. I., the Viceroy of India, was unveiled at the Nazar Bag palace, where to this day it adorns the stately Gallery of that elegant mansion.

In the following year the Maharaja ceased to levy certain minor but obnoxious duties on goods passing through his territories, and also introduced several reforms in the customs department, by which many facilities were accorded to the merchant classes.

In 1876, Tara Bai-the adoptive sister of the Maharaja, was given away in marriage to the Sir Desai of Sawantwadi; and the following year witnessed the celebration of the nuptials of the Gaekwad himself with the gifted Chimna Bai-a princess of Tanjore. The royal wedding was made an occasion of great festivities at Baroda, and distinguished European and native gentlemen were invited to be present at the interesting ceremony.

In 1883, Raja Sir T. Madhav Rao resigned the ministerial post and retired to his own native country. He was succeeded in his office by Khan Bahadur Kazi Shahab-ud-Din, Dewan Bahadur Laxaman Jagannath, and lastly by Dewan Bahadur Mani Bhai Jas Bhai, who holds the Premier's portfolio to the present day.

On the 3rd of August 1883, at midnight Her Highness Chimna Bai gave birth to a prince and heir to the throne, who was named Fattah Sinh Rao, but the young prince was not long destined to enjoy the fond caresses of a loving

mother, for before he could complete his second year, he lost his royal mother in 1885. Her sudden and untimely death threw her sorrowing lord into agonies of pain and mental anguish, for she had ever been a loving and affectionate wife to her husband. Subsequently, the Maharaja married another princess, by name, Chinna Bai—the present Rani—by whom he has three sons and one daughter; the eldest Jay Sinh Rao, was born on 13th May 1889, the second bears the name of Shivaji Rao, while the youngest is named Dhairya Shil Rao. The princess is named Indira Raja.

In the summer of 1887, His Highness the Maharaja, accompanied by the Maharani, proceeded on a tour to the continent of Europe, so full of interest to a prince of his intelligence. He passed several months in North Italy, Switzerland, and South of France, and then arrived in England in the following November. He proceeded to Windsor, on the 5th of December, and had the honour of being entertained by Her Gracious Majesty the Queen Empress, who very cordially received her Indian guest. The Maharaja had already, been enrolled on the list of the Knights of the Order of the Star of India, and was, on that occasion, decorated, at the hands of the august Sovereign, with the *insignia* of a Grand Commander of the Exalted Order. The Maharaja had, from the first, been in the habit of assiduously discharging all the regal functions, and was scrupulous in personally attending to the administration of affairs in the State; there are bounds, however, to human attainments, and his health, which had been unduly handicapped, suffered severely owing to excessive mental pressure and the inclement heat of a tropical sun. For the restoration of his health, therefore, the Maharaja undertook a second trip to Europe, in June 1888. The bracing climate of Switzerland did him much good, but the weak state of his health rendered it imperative for him to proceed to Europe on three successive occasions, in May 1892, in April 1893, and in the following December of the same year. In 1892, he was accompanied by the Maharani, and they were graciously received by Her Majesty the Queen-Empress, who personally conferred upon the Rani the *insignia* of the Imperial Order of the Crown of India. These occasional visits of His Highness to the centres of Civilization in the West have been productive of immense benefit to the State, and the Maharaja never fails to bring his vast experience to bear upon the improvement of the material and social condition of his subjects. Under him several reforms have been introduced into the administration of the State; land-revenue survey, based upon a scientific system, has been effected throughout his territories; the revenue code has been revised, and several obnoxious imposts

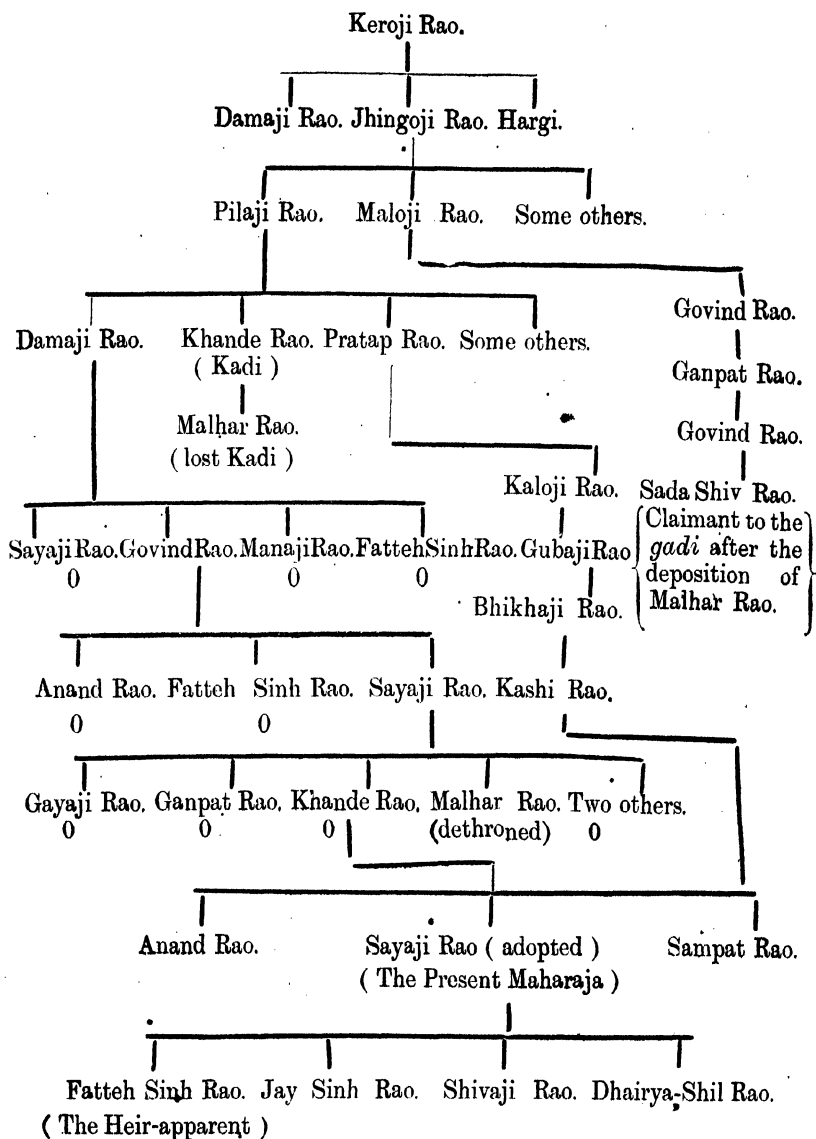
and transit duties, which seriously hampered the progress of commerce, have been abolished. With these changes in the fiscal laws, the condition of the cultivators and their agricultural holdings has, also, been improved to a great extent. The civil and criminal regulations of the State are, also being codified, with a view to secure precision and an equitable administration of the existing laws. The principle of local self-government has been recognised and the people are allowed a certain share in the conduct of the Municipal administration of the city. Like a practical political reformer, the Maharaja has also succeeded, to a certain extent, in separating the executive and the judicial functions of his officers. For the better working of the Police, and for securing full efficiency, he has issued several excellent rules, and has also carried out several important military reforms in the small army that is maintained by the State. But above all, the Maharaja reserves his special attention for matters Educational. Under him, great progress has been made in the department of Education, in all its branches, whether primary or higher, liberal or technical and industrial. An Arts College, affiliated to the Bombay University, and teaching up to the B. A. and B. Sc. standards is maintained by the Gaekwad, and is well manned with an efficient staff of teachers. Classes for imparting instruction in Law and Agriculture are also attached to the College. The number of vernacular schools has, also enormously increased, and the liberal spirited Maharaja proposes to open thirty new schools, every year, within his territories. Several village-schools have been opened in the farthestmost parts of his dominions, wherever there seemed a prospect of getting not less than at least sixteen young boys on the roll; and the system of offering grants-in-aid has called into existence several such primary schools maintained by private enterprise. Schools and boarding-houses have also been established for the boys of the lowest classes, and the rays of Education have begun to penetrate the thickest veils of ignorance and superstitions, and have succeeded in reaching the hitherto neglected masses of people, who were untouched by the refining hand of civilization. Schools have, also, been opened for instruction in the Fine Arts of Music and Drawing, and, also, for the practical teaching of Agriculture. The Technical Institute, founded at Baroda, fosters the growth of several useful arts, industries and handicrafts, and turns out, every year, a number of skilful mechanics and artisans. The claims of social advancement have also received full recognition at the hands of the enlightened Maharaja, who has imparted a strong impetus to Female Education in his State. Several girls' Schools have been opened, with Female Training classes. where sound mental training is imparted to the future

wives and mothers of his subjects. They are, also, made to go through a course of physical exercise, and are trained in the useful and homely arts of sewing, embroidery, and cookery. The partial introduction of compulsory Education in one district testifies to the Maharaja's unflagging zeal in the cause of Education.

Hospitals and charitable dispensaries have been opened, throughout the Gaekwad's dominions for the relief of the suffering and the poor, and the medical needs of the female population are, also, now attended to by a competent lady-doctor who has made a special study of the subject. Palaces built in an elegant style, and other magnificent buildings, for the accommodation of schools, colleges, and hospitals, all possessing architectural beauty of a high order, bear witness to the Maharaja's polished taste, and his anxious desire to see the Public Works Department in a flourishing state. A greater portion of the Gaekwad's dominions is now intersected by Railways, and great facilities are afforded to travellers by the construction and improvement of new roads. Stringent sanitary measures are in progress, and the Maharaja has succeeded in providing for one of the most pressing necessities of his people by supplying the city with pure and wholesome water. For that purpose Water works have been constructed on a gigantic scale, at the Ajwa lake, at an enormous cost, and the public health shows manifest signs of improvement by this copious supply of pure potable water.

On the occasion of the Jubilee of Her Majesty's most glorious reign in February, 1887, H. H. Sayaji Rao Gaekwad loyally took a leading part in the general festivities and national rejoicings. A general holi-day was observed within his domains; his capital was beautifully illuminated with numerous coloured lanterns; and the merry children of all the schools within the realm were regaled with tempting packets of delicious sweets. His Highness Maharaja Sayaji Rao Gaekwad has judicial powers of life and death, and enjoys a salute of 21 Guns.

Genealogical Tree.



Residence—The Lakshami-Vilas Palace, Baroda; The Palace, Makarpura.
Bombay Presidency, Western India.

CHAPTER II

STATES ENTITLED TO A SALUTE OF 19 GUNS.

KASHMIR.

Area.—76,784 Sq. miles. Population.—1,500,000.

Revenue.—about 80,76,000 rupees.

Kashmir is bounded on the north by some petty semi-independent hill chief-ships, mostly subordinate to Kashmir, and by the Kara Koram mountains; on the east by Chinese Tibet; on the south and west by the Punjab Districts and the Hazara country.

* The State of Kashmir, situated as it is in one of the fertile valleys of the Himalaya Mountains in the North of India, boasts of high snow-clad hills, rich fruitful valleys, and luxurious tracts of land, and is justly styled the Paradise of India. Hindu Kings are recorded to have ruled there for nearly 4550* years beginning from about 2666 B. C. According to local tradition, there was, in days of yore, a spacious lake in which there lived a monster called Yaldeo. He was driven away from that abode by a Rishi and that portion of the territory acquired, after that sage, the name of Kashmir. The Scythians, and after them the Tartars made repeated inroads upon the newly settled territory, and conquering portions of it, established themselves in the province. With the exception of that short interval, Kashmir has ever since its foundation been ruled over by Hindu sovereigns. Oghuz Khan, a Seythian general, invaded it, at the head of a mighty force, a few years before the dawn

of the Christian era, but was opposed and repulsed by Jagma, the Hindu ruler of the province. The Scythians, however, continued the siege and at last succeeded in capturing the metropolis. From the few inscriptions that have come down to us, it appears that it was subsequently conquered from them by the Tartars, whose sovereigns ruled there from 150 to 100 B. C. History, however, proves that Hindu sovereigns reigned there at the time when Mahomed of Ghazni led his famous expeditions against India from 996 to 1024. Mahomed led his troops against Kashmir and wrought a fearful havoc throughout the province. On his way back to his native land, he and his followers were decoyed by the ruler of Kashmir in a narrow defile, where they were hemmed in all sides and massacred in large numbers. Mahomed, afraid of meeting with a similar disaster, did not repeat his invasion upon the rich and fruitful valley of Kashmir. Ever since the retreat of the Ghazni Prince, Hindu sovereigns ruled there in peace and tranquillity till the middle of the 14th century of the Christian era. It was at the end of that century that a Tartar general, named Chagni, conquered it, and there established a separate government, which remained in the hands of his descendants till the year 1586. It was afterwards conquered by the great Mughal Emperor Akabar, who annexed it to his dominions. The vanquished ruler of the Tartar dynasty was employed by the victor at his Court and was granted a rich *Jagir* in Behar. Kashmir had by that time attained a world-wide celebrity for its cool, bracing, climate and its rich, luxurious, gardens, and the Emperor and his heirs passed the weary hours of the scorching summer in that pleasant and salubrious garden-land of the East.

In 1738, when Nadir Shah, the Emperor of Persia, invaded India, and captured Delhi after a fearful carnage, the rich valley of Kashmir, too, yielded to his arms. Ahmad Shah, the founder of the Durani dynasty, followed Nadir Shah in the wake, and subjugating Kashmir, annexed it to his realms in 1752. Mahomed Ajim Khan, the Afghan Viceroy of Kashmir, rebelled against the central authority at Kabul, and throwing off its yoke established an independent government in the year 1809. The Shah of Persia repeatedly sent his men against the insurgent Chief, but on every occasion they were beaten back by their formidable antagonist, Mahomed Ajim Khan.

Maharaja Ranjit Singh, the Lion of the Punjab, conquered Kashmir and the greater part of its adjacent territories, and tacked them on to his

own dominions, in 1819. Some portion was still left in the hands of Mahomed Ajim Khan, who in 1820 sought the assistance of the English officers stationed at Dehli, with a view to preserve the remnant of his vast dominions, as well as to reconquer those that were captured by the Sikh ruler of Lahore. Mahomed Azim Khan failing in his attempt, the province of Kashmir fell into the hands of Ranjit Singh.

After the death of Maharaja Ranjit Singh great confusion and disorder prevailed in the Punjab, in 1844. Ranjit Singh was after his death succeeded by his son Kharak Singh. He was, however, within four months of his accession, treacherously murdered and Sher Singh ascended the throne. He and his sons shortly after fell victims to some foul play and the Punjab for a time became a hot-bed of intrigues and conspiracies. At last Ranjit Singh's widow placed her minor son Dulip Singh on the *gadi* at Lahore, and herself carried on the administration with the co-operation of one of her favourites, Lal Singh, her brother Joravar Singh, and Gulab Singh, the Chief of Jammu. In 1845, a war was declared between the English and the Sikhs in which the former lost many of their brave soldiers. In 1846, a battle was fought at Sobraon in which many men on both sides lay dead on the field. A treaty was at length concluded on the 8th March 1847, by which it was agreed that the Sikh Maharaja should pay to the English all the expenses of the war, and in addition, cede to them the district of the Doab. The Maharaja was not in a position to pay such a large amount, and in consideration of that sum he was compelled to hand over to the English the rich provinces of Kashmir and Hazara. These territories were subsequently sold by the British Government for seventy-five *lakhs* of rupees to Gulab Singh of Jammu, who was thenceforth styled the Maharaja of Kashmir. It would not be deemed out of place here to give a short history of the new Maharaja. He was formerly a mere sowar (cavalier) in the service of one of the Sirdars at the Punjab Court, who was a special *attaché* to the person of the Maharaja Ranjit Singh. He gradually rose to the high position of a general in the Maharaja's army. He exhibited rare courage and gallantry in capturing Agar Khan, the recalcitrant Chief of Raneri, and, Ranjit Singh rewarded his meritorious services by the perpetual grant of the estate of Jammu. He set up an independent government there, and encroaching upon the rich tracts then owned by petty Rajput Chiefs and land-lords either by force of arms or by intrigues and machinations, he extended his dominions up to Ladak. A great Sikh revolution had preceded the breaking out of the Punjab war between the English and the Maharaja

Ranjit Singh, and in those changes Gulab Singh was appointed minister of the Khalsa. The stipulations, which formed the basis of the treaty between the contending factions, were the out-come of the rare administrative firmness and sagacity of Gulab Singh. During the last Sikh war of 1844, the far-sighted premier, Gulab Singh, remained aloof in his estate of Jammu, and watched with keen interest the result of the struggle. He was perfectly convinced that success would finally attend the British arms, yet the very slight advantage attained by the Sikhs on the field of Chillianwala was enough to disturb the equanimity of his mind. The successive victories gained by the English in the battles of Multan and Gujarat, however, turned the tide, and Gulab Singh, with the true instincts of a sagacious ruler, preserved in tact his alliance with the British Crown.

During the Indian Mutiny of 1857, Maharaja Gulab Singh remained as firm as ever in his loyalty to the Paramount power, and sent a large army under the command of his eldest son and heir-apparent, to the succour of the English who were engaged in the deliverance of Delhi. Maharaja Gulab Singh, however, expired at that critical juncture. He was a firm wise, brave and politic ruler, and was endued with rare foresight and sagacity. Prince Ranbir Singh, who was at Delhi, on hearing the news of his father's death entrusted the command of his troops to his lieutenant, returned to Kashmir, where he ascended the *gadi* in the year 1857.

Maharaja Ranbir Singh, too, proved a brave and beneficent ruler. He used to hear and dispose of the grievances of the poor applicants, who resorted to him, when he held his Court twice every day; and discriminating truth from falsehood he meted out justice evenly to the rich and the poor. He always tried to alleviate the miseries of his subjects, especially during famines and other troublous times by undertaking large works of public utility. The Maharaja in short spared no pains to make his subjects happy. He spent large sums of money in extracting wine out of grapes-the staple produce of Kashmir-but greater success attended the introduction of a silk-manufacturing mill than that which attended the wine-distilleries. He put a stop to the evil practice of killing female-babes immediately after their birth, a custom common among the Sikhs, as among some Rajput tribes in Western India. He established several hospitals and dispensaries, encouraged education, and liberally patronized all works of charity. He had personally repaired to Delhi to assist the English in the deliverance of that ancient capital from the hands of the mutineers in 1857, and in recognition of that signal service the Governor-General conferred upon him, in a Darbar held on the 1st

November 1861, the *insignia* of the Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India. He went to Calcutta in 1875 to pay homage to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Heir-Apparent to the British Throne.

Maharaja Ranbir Singh attended the Imperial Assemblage held at Delhi by H. E. Lord Lytton, the then Governor-General of India, on the 1st of January 1877, in honor of the assumption by Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, of the proud title of "Empress of India." The Maharaja of Kashmir was made honorary general of Her Majesty's troops, and was further decorated with the title of "Indra Mahendra Bahadur Sipahi-Saltanat." His personal salute was raised from 19 to 21 guns. He was also made a Member of the Imperial Council newly established in the country.

Maharaja Ranbir Singh was a firm ally of the English. When H. E. Lord Dufferin, the Viceroy of India, held a Darbar at Ravalpindi, the Maharaja of Kashmir did honor to the occasion, though he was then keeping indifferent health. He breathed his last on 12th of September 1885.

Maharaja Ranbir Singh was after his death succeeded by his son Pratap Singh, the present ruler of Kashmir. He has two brothers and four sisters. Till the death of Maharaja Ranbir Singh the Paramount power had been represented at the court of Kashmir by an envoy, who was termed "the Officer on Special duty," but since that time a British Resident has been stationed at the place. The administration of the State was in many respects defective, and urgent measures of internal reform were imperatively needed in many departments. The Resident had been privately instructed to see that all these improvements were carried into effect without any delay. His scheme of introducing these reforms was, however, greatly facilitated by a strange event that turned up in the annals of Kashmir in 1889. The task of government had become a problem of great difficulty to Maharaja Pratap Singh since his very accession to the throne. His administration had been a constant source of anxiety to the Government of India; and the incapable ruler at last tendered a voluntary resignation of all active part in the government of the State. This act of self-abnegation was approved of by the English, who at once accepted the Maharaja's voluntary surrender of all powers. For the purpose of reorganising the whole State on the broad basis of internal reform, a Council was appointed, which included the Maharaja's

brothers and several eminent men of tried ability from the British service. The final authority was to rest with the Resident, without whose advice no important measure was to be undertaken by the Council. In 1891 the Maharaja was, again at his own request, restored partially to his regal authority. The Council of Administration was, however, to continue under the Maharaja's president-ship, and the Maharaja undertook to abide by the final advice of the Resident in all the affairs of the State.

In 1888 the Maharaja was created an Honorary Colonel in the British army, and was decorated with the title of a Knight Grand Commander of the Star of India in 1892.

His Highness Maharaja Pratap Singh has judicial powers of life and death, and is entitled to a salute of 19 guns.

Genealogical tree.

Gulab Singh .

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Ranbir Singh

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Pratap Singh

(The Present Maharaja)

Residence:—Jammu and Kashmir, Northern India



GWALIOR, OR THE DOMINIONS OF SINDHIA.

Area.—29047 Sq. miles. Population.—3,378,774.

Revenue.—1,37,79,232 rupees.

Gwalior is bounded on the north-east and north-west by the Chambal river, which separates it from the British Districts of Agra and Etawah, and the Native States of Dholpur, Karauli, and Jaipur in Rajputana, on the east by the British Districts of Jalaun, Jhansi, Lalitpur, and Sagar; on the south by the States of Bhopal, Tonk, Kilchipur, and Rajgarh; and on the west by those of Jhalawar, Tonk, and Kotah of Rajputana.

The present Maharaja of Gwalior is a Māratha by birth. One of his ancestors Ranoji is said to have laid the foundations of this important and interesting *Raj*. Ranoji's father, who was generally known by the name of Sindhia, occupied the very humble position of the headman (Patel) of the village of Kumerkerrah, in the Satara District. His descendant-rulers, in consequence, have been up to this day known by the family name of 'Sindhia.' Ranoji's forefathers were retainers at the court of the Shah of Beder, but as the future founder of the line of Sindhias was not fortunate enough even to secure this modest and by no means enviable start in life, he was reduced to much straitened circumstances. Ranoji was thus left alone to fight his way out in the battle of life, with very gloomy and discouraging prospects before him, uncared for by relations and unsupported by friends. In 1714, he repaired to Satara, where he had to accept, for a very low salary, a degrading and disreputable service in the household of Balaji Wishvanath, the first Peshwa, and the illustrious minister of Raja Shahu. Ranoji was appointed the bearer of the Peshwa's slippers. In this cheerless plight he had to serve for six long years, when after the death of Balaji, his son, Baji Rao Peshwa, saw in the person of Ranoji a promising and intelligent youth, appreciated his many high qualities and appointed him to the post of a Silladar (cavalier).

The Peshwai, which in its later developments, was to constitute one of the rival powers fighting for autonomy in India, during the closing years of the last century, was, at this period, making steady progress under the auspices of Baji Rao Peshwa, who was laying sure foundations of its future greatness. The Central Government at Delhi had been rotten to the core, and nothing but the mere phantom of power was left in the hands of the effete

and imbecile monarchs, who still retained the empty imperial title, during the decline of the once brilliant Mughal Empire. With the mouldering ruins of this colossal edifice, battered on all sides by the constant inroads of insurgent satraps and distant potentates, the Empire presented a scene of chaotic turmoil and hopeless confusion, when Balaji Wishvanath, the first Peshwa, marched to Delhi, in response to the pressing calls of Saiyed Hussain, the king-maker, and the chief Wazier under Mahomed Shah. In consideration of the valuable assistance rendered by the Peshwa on this occasion, the grateful sovereign ceded to him the right to collect the "*Charuth*" and "*sirdeshmukhi*" from the Deccan, and secured him in the independent and undisturbed possession of the Poona and Satara districts. Baji Rao, after being installed as the second Peshwa, marched towards Khandesh and Malwa, in order to levy these taxes and raise the money from the reluctant land-lords, who had for long ceased their contributions to the State. The Peshwa, who was accompanied by Ranoji Sindhia in this expedition, was struck with the courage of this youthful soldier. He admired his prowess and appointed him at the head of his cavalry. Ranoji was again despatched to Malwa in 1725, in order to collect the "*Charuth*" from the people, and with a view to enable him to defray his expenses, as well as to remunerate him for his services, the whole of the province was ceded to him. He thenceforward became the governor of Malwa. Ten years later, Baji Rao Peshwa made himself bold to demand a certain tribute and the cession of some territory, from the Emperor, Mahomed Shah, which being refused, the Peshwa, Ranoji Sindhia and Malhar Rao Holkar, combined their forces and marched to Delhi. On this occasion, however, they were repulsed and had to turn back discomfited. Their retreating forces were opposed by Nizam-ul-Mulk, the governor of the Deccan, near Bhopal, where a fierce struggle ensued, in which by a clever and skilful manœuvre of the Maratha leaders, the Nizam's forces were pressed in on all sides by the swarming hosts of the Peshwa. The Nizam had to yield to humiliating stipulations, dictated by the victors; for his ransom he ceded the whole of the province of Malwa and the tract lying between the Narbada and the Chambal, together with five millions of rupees. He also promised to obtain from the Emperor, a ratification of the terms of this treaty. In 1739, Ranoji Sindhia, aided by Chimnaji Appa, the Peshwa's brother, succeeded in wresting the fortress of Bassein and the surrounding hill stations from the hands of the Portuguese, who had been for some time trading in Southern India.

At this juncture the invasion of India by Nadir Shah operated to draw all the contending forces towards the north, for the purpose of defending

the walls of Delhi against the deadly assaults of that barbarous conqueror; and amongst them Ranoji was summoned by the Peshwa to march to the relief of the Indian metropolis. Nadir, however, soon abandoned the capital, laden with the richest spoils and the most magnificent booty that was ever captured by plundering marauders or conquering heroes. The Marathas, on this occasion, obtained from the Emperor *Sanads*, securing them in their possession of Malwa and the surrounding districts. These negotiations were carried on by Raja Jai Singh of Jaipur, on behalf of his Imperial master, and by the diplomatic Ranoji, who watched the interests of the Peshwa. The Maratha troops, at this period, were proud to have in their midst two of the most brilliant characters of the day, Ranoji Sindhia, and Malhar Rao Holkar.

Ranoji Sindhia died in 1750, leaving behind him five sons; three by his first wife Minā Bai:—Jayaji, Dattaji and Joitaji, and two by his Rajput consort Chima Bai:—Madhaji and Tukaji; names which figure conspicuously during the subsequent stages of the annals of Gwalior. Jayaji Rao, the eldest, was nominated as Sindhia in place of his deceased father. The kingdom of Jayaji Rao, situated in the north-east of Malwa, ranked at this period as one of the six limbs of the Maratha *Raj* in India. The Grand Wazier at Delhi summoned to his assistance Jayaji Rao Sindhia, Malhar Rao Holkar, and Raja Suraj Mal, the Jat chieftain of Bharatpur, in order to suppress the mutiny, which the insurgent Rohillas had raised in the province of Rohilkhand. They quelled the rebellion and laid hold of that province, which they distributed among themselves. In 1750, Balaji Rao, the third Peshwa, allotted the province of Malwa to be partitioned among the leading Maratha chieftains, and Sindhia on this occasion obtained as his share in the division an accession to his territories, yielding an annual income of seven millions of rupees.

A dispute arose as to the right of succession to the *gadi* of Jodhpur in Marwad, between the rival claimants, Vijaya Singh and Ram Singh; and in 1759, Ram Singh invoked the assistance of the Peshwa. Jayaji Rao Sindhia marched at the head of an army to support the cause of the Peshwa's ally, and encamped near Nagore, where, however, he fell victim to some foul play, for he was secretly despatched by the vile assassins, whom the treacherous Vijaya Singh had specially engaged for the purpose. The Rajput chief had, however, to pay very dearly for this act of atrocity, for the vengeance of the injured Marathas was not appeased with anything less than the cession of the fortress of Ajmere, and the right to levy the "*Chauth*" from the Marwad territories.

When Jayaji Rao thus perished in 1759, his brother Dattaji Rao was installed as the next Sindhia. In 1751, during the life time of the preceding Sindhia, this prince had engaged Salabat Jang, the Nizam's son, on the battle-field, while the moslem army under the leadership of the latter, was advancing towards Poona, and had routed his forces and put him to flight. So also in 1755, this same prince had hastened to the succour of Raghoba, the Peshwa's brother, when the latter was engaged in the task of reducing the city of Ahmedabad. Three years later, the Maratha troops headed by Raghunath Rao, entered the Panjab dominions, and seized the citadel of Lahore. In their onward march they were opposed by the combined armies of Ahmed Shah Abdali of Kabul, Nazim-ud-Daulah, the Rohilla chieftain, and Sujah-ud-Daulah, Nawab of Oudh, the three Moslem leaders, who had entered into an offensive and defensive alliance for the purpose of stemming the current of Maratha conquest. A bloody engagement took place at the village of Rudher near Delhi, between the Marathas led by Dattaji Rao Sindhia, and Malhar Rao Holkar, their two enterprising leaders, and their Mahomedan foes. The result of the encounter proved fatal to the Marathas, who were repulsed with great loss, while Dattaji Sindhia was found among the slain (1759).

When Dattaji Rao had been thus mortally wounded on the battle-field, his brother Joitaji had, also, been killed, while leading a desperate attack at the siege of Kamber near the stronghold of Dig. Sindhia's *gadi* consequently descended to Jankoji Rao, the heir-apparent, and the son of the late Jayaji Rao, their eldest brother.

The encounter at Lahore, however, was but a prelude to a mighty and fierce war between the Marathas and the Moslems, for the possession of supreme and Paramount power in India. Ahmed Abdali, with his myriads of sturdy followers, was rapidly advancing on Delhi, and the Marathas had encamped in great numbers to oppose his progress. The seventh day of January 1761 witnessed a terrible onslaught, in which the valiant soldiers of Islam clashed their steel weapons against the lances and sword blades of the Marathas. The plains of Panipat became once more the scene of that general carnage, when foes and friends alike were cut down like so many blades of corn, at a rich harvest. After brilliant displays of extraordinary heroism and martial prowess on both sides, the Marathas could no longer maintain their ground against the furious charges of the Afghan cavalry. They were only used to guerilla warfare in mountain passes and were never

trained to stand against disciplined soldiers in a pitched battle, and the result was that they were beaten back with great loss. Their ranks were pierced, their flanks were turned and they had to beat an instant retreat. That day the sun set on the blood-stained plains of Panipat, which were covered over with hoaps of mangled corpses, leaving the Marathas vanquished and the Mahomedans the victorious masters of the field. The defeat at Panipat dealt a death-blow to the Maratha power in the north. Thousands of gallant warriors were massacred on the field, while the rest were scattered, like chaff before wind, by the pursuing array of the Mahomedans. During the flight many more dropped down dead through exhaustion and fatigue, while many were slaughtered by the cruel pursuers, who gave them no quarter. Those who fell prisoners in the hands of the merciless foes were barbarously tortured to death. Vishwasa Rao, the Peshwa's son, Sadashiva Bhow, the generalissimo of the Maratha army, Jankoji Rao Sindhia, the *elite* of Maratha soldiery, and many a flower of Mahrashtra chivalry, perished in this fatal action, and only a few straggling soldiers, broken down with fatigue, survived to bear the heartrending tale of their woe to the Peshwa, who became broken-hearted at the magnitude of his loss. Malhar Rao Holkar and Damaji Rao Gaekwad fled away from that scene of sanguinary strife, and owed their lives only to their timely flight. The Maratha losses were roughly estimated at two hundred thousand soldiers, slain or maimed for life.

The life of Jankoji Rao Sindhia had, as mentioned above, been cut short by the sword of the enemy on the plains of Panipat. After him, there remained only two brothers in the Sindhia family with some plausible claims to the *gadi*. They were Madhaji and Tukaji, the two sons of Ranoji Sindhia, the founder of the line, by his Rajput wife. The question of succession came on for decision before the Peshwa, and the claims of the contending rivals were supported by the two hostile factions at the Court of Poona. Raghunath Rao, the Peshwa's brother, thought of elevating Manaji Fankde to that high position, while Nana Fadnavis, and Haripant Phadake espoused the cause of the rightful heir Madhaji. By their persuasion Madhav Rao Peshwa was won over to their side, and was in 1767 induced to invest Madhaji with the insignia of the office of Sindhia. The presentation of the customary robes of honour terminated the ceremony of the installation of Madhaji Sindhia.

Madhaji Sindhia, popularly known by the name of "*Patil Bava*", had also saved his life by a precipitate flight from the disastrous plains of Panipat.

While flying for his life, Madhaji was overtaken and charged by a Pathan, who was closely pursuing him, and in the skirmish a bullet from the Pathan struck the Maratha on his leg, which maimed him for ever. Thus disabled, the future Sindhia was lying in a very critical state, every moment expecting to be over-come by the victors, and fearing a very cruel death at their hands, when he was saved from that imminent peril by the kindness of a water-carrier, who bore him away to a distant place of safety. When Raghunath Rao was trying to further the interests of Manaji Fankde, whose cause he had espoused, Madhaji felt much aggrieved at heart, and went to reside at a village named Rayamoho, near Ahmednagar. Here he was very hospitably treated by a Mahomedan Fakir, named Mansur Shah, for whom he began to entertain feelings of sincere regard and gratitude; and when Madhaji was finally decorated with the royal robes of Sindhia, he believed that the good fortune to which he was thus wedded, could only have been the result of Divine favour, brought about by that holy mendicant's blessings. The good friar received a *Jagir* from the grateful Sindhia, who, also, granted an *Inami Jagir* to that water-carrier, to whom he owed his life.

The dominions in Northern India, which the Marathas lost after the crushing defeat they sustained at Panipat in 1761, were now regained by the combined forces led by Madhaji Sindhia, Tukaji Holkar, Visaji Krishnaji Biniyale, and Ramchandra Ganesh Kanade. Shah Alum, the Emperor of Delhi, who had been reduced to the low level of a mere pensioner, maintained by the East India Company, was, on the 25th of December 1771, restored to his ancestral throne at Delhi with the aid of the Maratha troops. He became, however, a puppet in the hands of the shrewd Marathas, and derived no substantial advantage from this change of custodians; and in his melancholy situation he found no solace in the imperial sceptre, which was totally shorn of its former grandeur.

Madhav Rao, the good and able Peshwa, died in 1772, in the prime of his youth, and zenith of his glory. His bright and hopeful life, full of high promise and ambitious projects, was prematurely cut short by the cruel hand of Death. The crushing disaster on the plains of Panipat, and the sad and early demise of this far-sighted youth, proved to be the two dire calamities which conspired to shake the very foundations of Maratha supremacy in India; and from this period might be dated the innumerable intestine feuds that cropped up amongst the rival Maratha powers, by which the vast fabric of their Empire was, within half a century from that day, torn to shreds of little or no importance. When the intelligence of the

Peshwa's death reached Madhaji, he instantly proceeded to Poona, whence he, with the co-operation of the astute minister Nana Fadnavis, was able to expel the scheming Raghunath Rao, who fled to the English for protection. The East India Company promised him every assistance, and a detachment of the British troops escorted Raghunath Rao to Poona, with the object of setting him up on the Peshwa's *gadi*, while another party was sent towards Gujarat, to create a diversion in that quarter. The English arms sustained several reverses in the commencement of this first Maratha war, which was temporarily put a stop to by a truce, which the belligerents effected at Surat. The English authorities stipulated to surrender the person of Raghoba to Nana Fadnavis, and also to hand over two of their officers as hostages to be kept at the enemy's camp. Raghunath Rao was delivered over by the East India Company, in strict discharge of their agreement, to Nana Fadnavis, by whom he was kept in secure confinement.

A peace was concluded between the English and the Maratha powers, in 1776, which, however, did not last long. Hostilities were again renewed between the contending powers on the banks of the Jumna in Northern India. The British troops under Captain Popham, invested the fortress of Gwalior, which Sindhia had to abandon. Notwithstanding this brilliant achievement, the English derived no permanent benefit from their successes in this war. The hostilities were terminated by the treaty of Salbai, which the parties entered into in 1782, and by the terms of which, the English agreed to the cession of Bassein and the evacuation of a portion of Gujarat. Besides this, they, also, stipulated never to harbour Raghunath Rao in their camp, nor give him any succour in times of war. The English, also, bound themselves, to recall their troops, which they had sent for the protection of the Rana of Gohad, against whom Sindhia had waged an aggressive war, and committed themselves to a strict policy of non-intervention regarding the aggressions of that Maratha potentate. The English authorities, also, surrendered Broach and the surrounding villages to Sindhia in compliance with the terms of this treaty. Madhaji Sindhia, who thus reaped the greatest profit out of this war, now thought of separating himself from the Peshwa, whose power had been gradually eclipsed by him, and of setting up a powerful kingdom in the north, independent of the Central Court at Poona.

The fortress of Gwalior, which had been reduced by Captain Popham, whose troops had, in concert with the forces of the Rana of Gohad, laid

siege to it in 1780, was now retaken by Sindhia in 1782. The forces of the Rana were completely routed, the English having withdrawn their assistance by the terms of the treaty. Madhaji next proceeded to Delhi, where he liberated the Emperor, Shah Alum, who had been put into chains by his crafty Wazier. From that period Madhaji became the sole and undisputed master of the situation in the political arena at Delhi, and by his diplomatic tactics, he obtained a *Khilat* from the Emperor, appointing the Peshwa to the position of the Chief Wazier of Delhi, and nominating Madhaji Sindhia as his sole working agent in the north. The Emperor also agreed to deliver over the provinces of Delhi and Agra, besides sixty five thousand rupees in hard cash, to Sindhia, who was also able to extort from the Emperor, an anathema against cow-killing by the Mahomedans all over India. Madhaji now made most of the commanding situation which he had achieved at Delhi, and his influence with the powerless monarch was turned into the channel of self-aggrandisement. Ere long the province of the Doab, or the tracts watered by the two rivers, the Ganges and the Jumna, as well as the strong-holds of Aligarh and Raghavgarh, were appropriated by him and annexed to his domains. On all occasions of difference arising between the English Government and the Peshwa, in dealing with political questions, it was Madhaji Sindhia who interceded and played the part of a conciliator; and this circumstance was enough to arouse grave fears in the breast of the wary Nana Fadnavis, and awaken him to a sense of the growing importance and the increasing strength of Sindhia.

The cautious Brahman minister, dreading that the Court of Poona might some day be brought into trouble by the designs of the ambitious Madhaji, applied to the English government for help, and a British Resident was, from that day, stationed at the Peshwa's capital. Madhaji Sindhia, in his turn, retained French soldiers in his service, and in 1785, he raised a large disciplined army of natives, drilled and trained under the superintendence of the French general, De Boigne. With these troops Sindhia then invaded the dominions of the Raja of Jaipur. The brave Rajput soldiers of Marwad and other States in Rajputana marched under the leadership of Pratap Singh, Raja of Jaipur, to oppose the advance of the Marathas. The hostile forces met at a village named Tanga, where a sanguinary struggle ensued. The contest was hard fought on both sides; the infuriated Marathas, maddened with frantic rage, disputed every inch of ground with the chivalrous and valiant Rajputs. In the end the troops of Rajputana

gained a decisive victory and the French gunners under De Boigne were all slaughtered to a man. (1787). Four years later, Sindhia, in return wreaked a terrible vengeance on the Rajputs, who were all defeated at Patna and Merta, and were compelled to come to terms, by which they agreed to pay annual tribute to Sindhia.

Taking advantage of Sindhia's absence from Delhi on this occasion Gulam Kadir, a Mahomedan rebel, raised a revolt at the Mughal capital, seized the Emperor, Shah Alum, and had his eyes put out with red-hot iron. Madhaji, on hearing the news of this insurrection, at once proceeded to Delhi, where he suppressed the mutiny, seized Gulam Kadir, whom he put into fetters, and once more set the Emperor free. Madhaji, having thus restored peace at Delhi, after adjusting the political arrangements disturbed by the late riots under Gulam Kadir, proceeded next to Jodhpur, and laid siege to Ajmere, which had, for some time, passed into the hands of the Raja of Marwad. The garrison in the fort of Ajmere capitulated, and the city fell before the conquering arms of Sindhia. The Raja of Jodhpur was compelled to accept terms dictated by the victor. Madhaji, himself a very brave soldier, had under him at this period numerous disciplined troops with superb artillery under the command of efficient French leaders. Wherever he led his brilliant array victory followed in his train. Holkar, who had been for some time past not on good terms with Sindhia, ventured to rush upon the impenetrable line of his vanguard at Ajmere, which became the scene of a terrible battle between the rival armies. Holkar's forces were scattered like chaff before the winds, and as a direct consequence of this victory, Sindhia became master of several territories to the north and west of Allahabad. In 1792 Madhaji started for Poona, with the object of nullifying the British influence with the Peshwa, which had, at this period, increased to an alarming extent. Sindhia had, at this time, under him a vast extent of territories yielding an annual income of eighty millions of rupees, and had levied tribute from several feudatory princes. The title of the Imperial Wazier for the Peshwa, which Sindhia had brought from the Emperor of Delhi, was now presented by him with due ceremonies at the court of Poona. In 1794, when a dispute about the collection of the *Chauth* had just sprung up between the Marathas and the Nizam of Haidarabad, Madhaji Sindhia died, all at once, at the village of Wanavadi near Poona. He left no issue behind him; his nephew Daulat Rao, was therefore adopted to the deceased Sindhia and raised to the vacant *gadi*. The young Sindhia was at this time only a youth of sixteen years.

As the Nizam of Haidarabad refused to pay the customary tribute to the Peshwa, the Maratha forces at once marched upon the Nizam's dominions. The hostile armies met at Kharda, where the Nizam experienced a crushing defeat, and he had to purchase peace with the surrender of many fertile tracts and the payment of thirty millions in hard cash. In this engagement the youthful Sindhia, who had not yet been out of his teens, displayed admirable valour, while courageously fighting in the Peshwa's ranks. In this very year, (1795), Savai Madhav Rao, the young Peshwa, tired of his wretched life, which he deemed extremely miserable owing to the constant restraint and surveillance in which he was kept by the vigilant Nana Fadnavis, put an end to his melancholy existence by dropping himself down from a terrace.

The rightful claimant to the throne of the Peshwas, after the sudden and premature demise of Madhav Rao, was Baji Rao, the son of Raghoba; but he could not, for some time, succeed in ascending the *gadi* owing to the intrigues of the ever-scheming Nana. With the co-operation of Daulat Rao Sindhia, however, the long-deferred prize was at last laid hold of by Baji Rao. He was, however, a very feeble and inefficient ruler, and under him the Peshwa's Court at Poona became a hot-bed of factious intrigues, and in consequence, there sprang up feelings of deadly animosity between Nana Fadnavis and Daulat Rao Sindhia, the two rivals contending for supreme power.

Sindhia, highly incensed, in his unappeasable wrath, plundered the city of Poona from one end to the other; the sack lasted for one whole night and day, and many innocent peace-loving inhabitants lost their lives in the scenes of bloodshed, pillage and rapine that ensued. Nana was arrested and loaded with chains, he was sent to be pent up in the fortress of Ahmednagar. The office of the Peshwa's minister was conferred by Sindhia on his own father-in-law, known in history by the appellation of Ghatgay. Sukharam Ghatgay wielded his powers with an iron hand. Inhuman tortures and extortions were the order of the day, and many an honest folk were squeezed of their life-blood and of their savings, after being made the victims of his infernal machinery of torture, invented for the purpose. The soldiery rose up in an alarming revolt, eagerly demanding their pay, and the whole Maratha gentry was in an ebullition of wrath. Baji Rao was overawed, and he had to dispense with the services of the inhuman Ghatgay, liberate Nana from his confinement, and re-install him into the ministerial post.

At this juncture Daulat Rao Sindhia was engaged in the north, fighting with Holkar all the while. In 1800, a decisive engagement took place between the hostile forces of Sindhia and of Jaswant Rao Holkar, which resulted in the defeat of the latter, and involved both in a terrible loss of courageous warriors, slain on the battle-field. The Peshwa's sympathies were naturally on the side of his ally, Sindhia, and Holkar, with the object of wreaking his vengeance on the effete ruler of the Court of Poona, resumed his hostilities against Baji Rao and attacked his capital. The Peshwa fled from Poona, which he abandoned to the tender mercies of the enemy and took refuge in the fortress of Bassein. His nephew was seized by Holkar on the Peshwa's *gadi*, thus rendered vacant by Baji Rao.

In 1802 Baji Rao entered into an offensive and defensive alliance with the British Governor of Bombay; and by the stipulations of this treaty of Bassein, it was agreed that Baji Rao should surrender, to the British, territories yielding an income of twenty-six *lakhs* of rupees; should retain a subsidiary British force in his service; should engage no other foreign Europeans in his army; and should always have his political differences with other powers adjusted through the British Resident at Poona. In accordance with the terms of this alliance, the British armies marched to Poona, with the avowed aim of restoring Baji Rao to his ancestral throne. Hearing of their approach, Sindhia as well as Holkar took to their heels, and fled away to the north, thus rendering the work of restoration comparatively easy for the British arms.

The British authorities now asked Daulat Rao Sindhia to confine himself within his dominions in Malwa, and a similar imperative message was sent to Raghoji Bhonsle and the other turbulent Maratha chiefs. Their non-compliance with this wholesome requisition immediately led to a general declaration of hostilities. The commander of the English armies, Sir Arthur Wellesley, better known in subsequent history as the great Duke of Wellington, ordered detachments of his troops to march in all directions, by which the Maratha chieftains were closely hemmed in on all sides. The Maratha army under Daulat Rao Sindhia and Raghoji Bhonsle consisted of fifty thousand horse, thirty thousand trained and disciplined foot, and several large pieces of artillery; and besides these regular troops, it also commanded a vast array of irregular free-booters and camp-followers. They were met by the English arms near the plains of Assaye, which became the scene of a terrible encounter and a general carnage. Sindhia lost the day, and his splendid troops were all crushed by the victors. The

English obtained, as the prize of their valour, the fortresses of Asirgarh, Burhampur, Pawagarh, the Panch Mahals and the city of Broach. No better fate awaited the Maratha arms, which were engaged in the North by the English forces under Lord Lake. In a battle, that was fought at Delhi, Sindhia was again vanquished, and Lord Lake inflicted a terrible blow to the Maratha autonomy in the north by capturing two of their best strongholds, Delhi and Agra. The crest-fallen Sindhia was thus forced to come to terms and seek peace at the hands of the English. At a village named Sirji Anjengam in the presence of Sir John (then Major) Malcolm, Sindhia put his seal to the document, by which the British dictated peace to the vanquished Marathas. By the terms of this treaty it was agreed that the Marathas should cede to the English the territories enclosed by the Ganges and the Jamuna, Jaipur, Jodhpur, and certain tracts to the north of Gohad, as well as Broach; that Sindhia should restore Ahmednagar to the Peshwa, and should surrender to the Nizam all the tracts extending from Ajanta ghat and situated in the valley of the Godavari; should relinquish all his claims against Shah Alum, the Mughal Emperor, the Nizam, the Peshwa, and against Anand Rao Gaekwad. Sindhia was, also, bound down, by the terms of this treaty, to a strict policy of non-interference in the internal affairs of Bharatpur, Jodhpur, Jaipur, Alwar, Bundi and Gohad; an undertaking was, also, extorted from him, by which he was forbidden from engaging in his service any European foreigners, who were at enmity with the English. The British authorities on their part undertook to restore to Sindhia the fortresses of Asirgarh, Burhampur and Pawagarh and the other smaller forts belonging to him, and which they had seized during the continuance of hostilities, and also returned to him the rights of *Mokas* and *Sirdeshmukhi*; they, also, engaged to lend a subsidiary force of six thousand foot and several guns for the protection of Sindhia's dominions; this army was to be maintained only from the revenues of the above mentioned provinces ceded to the English. Sindhia, also, agreed to receive in his capital a British Resident with the aforesaid forces, and he, also, undertook never to leave the territorial limits of his own domains and march on the Deccan. Such was the termination of the second Maratha war, which was closed under circumstances that reflected no small credit to the British arms, and which obscured the once refulgent glory of the now tarnished Maratha sword.

Smarting under a keen sense of humiliation, Sindhia lost no time in making friends with the Raja of Bharatpur; and in 1805 the combined

forces of these two princes, with those of Holkar, marched towards Ajmere. The ultimate object of Daulat Rao Sindhia was to take possession of Gwalior for himself and to part with no territories in favour of the Rana of Gohad, an object which elicited instant disapproval from the British Resident. Meanwhile Sindhia's minister, the crafty Sukharam Ghatgay, in conspiracy with other desperate braves, surprized the Resident in his very dwelling, which they seized and shamelessly plundered. In spite of such insult, added to injury, the new Governor-General, Lord Cornwallis, who was a stern devotee of the policy of non-intervention, issued peremptory orders to Lord Lake to preserve amicable relations with Sindhia and Holkar.

Sindhia also was not behind hand in offering to make reparation for the wrongs done to the English, and this mutual desire to maintain in tact the friendly relations subsisting between them found outward manifestation in a treaty, that was signed again in the presence of Sir John Malcolm, on the 23rd November 1805. It was thereby agreed, that Gwalior and the district of Gohad were to be restored to Sindhia; that the river Chambal was to be fixed as the boundary line separating the British dominions from those of Sindhia; that Sindhia was to forego all his claims over the territories ceded to the English, in compliance with the former agreement, that in lieu of these, the English were to pay to Sindhia an yearly sum of thirty lakhs of rupees, that his Rani and his daughter were each to be endowed with a rich *jagir*; the English also undertook not to enter into any alliance, detrimental to Sindhia's interests, with the Rana of Udaipur, and the Rajas of Jaipur, Jodhpur and Kotah, or with any of the other states in Malwa, Meywad, or Marwad, paying tribute to Sindhia. They also agreed to take no objection to Sindhia's retention of all those districts between the Tapti and the Chambal, which he had seized from Holkar. In accordance with the terms of this arrangement, by which all the mutual differences were thus settled and adjusted, Gwalior, and Gohad became directly subject to Sindhia, but as the district of Gohad was then in the hands of its ruler, Rana Kirat Sinh, the Rana was compensated for the loss of this district with the cession of the Dholpur, Bara and Rajkheda districts to him. The present State of Dholpur, which is still known by that name, owes its origin to this settlement effected between Sindhia and the English authorities. From this moment Gwalior became the capital and the principal seat of Sindhia's rule.

In 1817, when the British Government raised a special corps for the suppression of the Pindharas-gangs of desperate free-booters, which infested

Central India, and which, too often, proved a murderous pest to unprotected and innocent travellers, Sindhia readily helped this beneficent undertaking with his own men; and by their joint efforts the Pindharas were subdued and their ranks were thinned. Ameer Khan, their leader, surrendered himself to the English, and from them he received in return the district of Tonk in *Jagir*. To the present day the descendants of this bandit-chief, Ameer Khan, rule over this State of Tonk.

In 1817 the Peshwa's regions were finally annexed to the British dominions, and the Peshwa was from that period located at Bithur, receiving an annual pension from the British Government. Daulat Rao Sindhia lived to become a sorry witness of this crowning humiliation of the once proud race of the Peshwas, the brilliant descendants of Balaji Wishwanath. On the 21st March 1827 Daulat Rao Sindhia expired, leaving behind him no issue to claim the throne.

Baija Bai, the Queen-dowager, adopted a distant relative of the name of Mugat Rao, who ascended the *gadi* with the title of Jankoji Rao. The young Sindhia being a minor at the time, Baija Bai held the reins of government in her own hands, with the assistance of her brother, Indu Rao. This clever and astute lady was so well-versed in the management of diplomatic matters, state-craft and policy, that during the time she wielded the powers of the State, the glory of her administration spread itself far and wide. Jankoji Rao, however, was blind to all these obligations that she had conferred upon the State, and like an ingrate he proved false and faithless to his benefactress. Acting on the counsel of several ill-advised and discontented military officers, Sindhia adopted the thoughtless measure of issuing a proclamation, declaring that he had from that day assumed an independent control of all the regal functions in the State. This intimation was the immediate cause of a general civil war. Several troops sided with the Royal mother, and after several intestine feuds the British Resident interfered; and through his intervention a mutual understanding was effected between the two factions. It was thereby agreed that Baija Bai was to be paid an annual sum of ten *lakhs* of rupees, and with this pension she was to retire from all political share in the administration of the State. As advised by the Resident, Baija Bai thenceforward settled herself at Dholpur.

Jankoji Rao Sindhia, however, did not long survive this act of infidelity on his part; he expired in February 1843; as he left behind him no heir to

the throne, born of his own loins, his widowed consort, Tara Bai, took in adoption a son of their distant relative, Hanmant Rao. The adopted child, Bhagirath Rao, ascended Sindhia's *gadi*, with the title of Jayaji Rao. The British Government acquiesced in this arrangement; but considering the very tender age of Jayaji Rao, who had just commenced his ninth year, they advised the appointment to the ministerial post, endowed with the sole administrative powers in the realm, of one Maratha noble-man, the uncle of the deceased Jankoji Rao, who was familiarly known as Mama Saheb. The management of Sindhia's government was thereby fully entrusted to Mama Saheb in consultation with the British Resident. Before long, however, a set of political gamesters, scheming and ambitious in the extreme, set up deep-laid plots and intrigues in coalition with the Queen-dowager, Tara Bai; and they assumed an attitude hostile to the interests of Mama Saheb. Within three months, Mama Saheb, far from relishing these diplomatic machinations, was tired of the political game, and resigning the ministerial post, eagerly desirous of repose, he sought in the British dominions the secure and calm quietude of a retired life. Another Maratha magnate, of the name of Dada Khasgiwala, was nominated to the ministerial office in his stead. Personally the new Dewan was, also, likely to be a tool in the hands of the British Resident; but as his appointment had been made by the Queen-mother of her own will and without first obtaining the sanction of the British Government, it was thought that a momentous principle had been infringed, and the Governor-General soon recalled the Resident, and ordered him to raise his encampment from Gwalior. There was no cessation, however, in the court intrigues, which on the contrary raged high, unchecked and uncurbed. As the Maratha grandees and dignitaries themselves were on no friendly terms with each other, each having his own private interest to advance, the whole country fell a prey to anarchical disorder and outrageous plunders. The soldiers, who were arrayed in strong numbers at Gwalior, were practically without any efficient leader to hold them in restraint; the former French officers in the army had of late been cashiered and dismissed, and the insurgent soldiers were thus let loose, without any control, on the innocent and inoffensive multitude. This general insecurity of person and property led the British Governor-General to interfere in the affairs of Gwalior. He insisted on the Queen-dowager and the other grandees to take immediate means for the restoration of peace and order in the disturbed dominions, and to put a stop to the many violent misdeeds, that were being perpetrated in their *Raj*. He proffered to them his friendly counsel for getting them out of their difficulties,

and warned them of the disastrous consequences which their obstinate non-compliance with the offer would inevitably lead to. All words of persuasion were, however, lost upon the the insensate Marathas; they heeded not the well-meant advice; and in consequence, the British forces marched towards Gwalior to establish order and restore peace in the surrounding regions. Another British detachment, which had been, for some time, stationed at Cawnpore, under the command of Sir Hugh Gough, was also ordered to proceed upon Gwalior. Lord Ellenborough, the then Governor-general, also personally accompanied these forces. Under such a threatening outlook the Queen-dowager quailed with dismay, and the ill-advised courtiers were overawed with fear, and they lost heart; Dada Khaskiwala was forthwith committed to the hands of the British authorities; but the Governor-General had, on this occasion, resolved not to withdraw the British troops from the dominions until the total suppression of all the intrigues at Sindhia's Court and the complete restoration of order and a sense of security in the province. Hereupon the *Sirdars* of Gwalior sent a message to Lord Ellenborough to the effect that if ever the British troops would cross over the Chambal river and land their men on Sindhia's dominions, they would lose all their sway and control over their Martaha forces, and would not then answer for any violence that may result; that they would not be responsible if the Governor's wishes for spreading general tranquillity in the province be then frustrated. A day was fixed by the Governor-General for holding diplomatic negotiations in the matter with Tara Bai and the chief dignitaries of the State, and at the same time, he gave them the ultimatum that in the event of their non-compliance with the proposed arrangement war would be declared and their forces would instantly be ordered to cross the Chambal. No Maratha envoy appeared on the day fixed for the settlement of their differences, and the British army, in consequence, advanced into Sindhia's dominions. The half-hearted Queen again proved herself unequal to the occasion; she sank under the sense of imminent peril and forthwith she deputed one, Bapu Sitawali, to the British Camp for negotiating peace. The Governor-General was betrayed into the false belief that this envoy would prove agreeable to their peaceful designs, and that through his intermission the general hostilities would be averted. He was disabused of this illusion, however, when this same Bapu Sitawali, after his return from the British Camp, was the first to commence hostile operations at the head of a small detachment of Sindhia's cavalry. The mission for peace had now hopelessly failed, and on the 29th December 1843

Sir Hugh Gough led the British armies to the attack. The hostile troops encountered each other on the plains of Maharajpur, which witnessed a hard-fought and bloody engagement and heroic display of martial valour on both sides. At the commencement of the onset, the Marathas fought valiantly and repulsed a party of English infantry, and killed several British officers. But the brave and sturdy soldiers of the West were not to be put off with such a trifling rebuff; feats of heroic prowess were performed on both the sides. The English soldiers made a terrible onslaught and rushed upon the Maratha ranks which they succeeded in breaking. The English and the Marathas became one confused mass of murderous belligerents, each armed against, and intent upon killing, his neighbouring opponent, all fighting pell-mell with each other. Guns were thrown down, and the Marathas were engaged in charging their foes at the point of their bayonets, in a hand to hand combat, when the British troops received fresh succours from the detachment under General Valliant, which created a diversion in the opposite direction, charged the Maratha ranks in their rear, and thus enclosed the village of Maharajpur on all its sides. He seized twenty-eight guns belonging to Sindhia's army, which now suffered several reverses on the battle-field. The English attacked and took three of the Maratha outposts, and thus succeeded in turning the fate of the day against their foes. Sindhia's army on this occasion fought with desperate valour; the Maratha heroes strained every nerve to retrieve the fortunes of the day, but were all killed on the spot. The English remained the victors on the field, though at the expense of frightful losses in the number of their officers and men, killed on the plains. The victory was dearly bought, but richly deserved.

Another engagement was fought between the hostile arrays at the village of Panniar, in which also victory was wedded to the British flag. General Gray chased the vanquished and fleeting Marathas from hill to hill, and scattered them into numerous small and inoffensive bands. Under such calamities Tara Bai, the Queen-dowager, and the Maratha grandees of the Court of Gwalior covered into submission and surrendered themselves to the victors. Peace was restored on condition that, during the minority of Maharaja Sindhia, the administration of the Gwalior State was to be vested in a Regency Council, which was to hold its deliberations under the constant eye, and with the advice, of the British Resident in every matter. The Maratha troops in the State were to be reduced and disbanded, and in their stead an English regiment was to be stationed at Gwalior, and to be maintained from the revenues of the state. Sindhia was to pay eighteen lakhs of

rupees as annual tribute to the British, whom he was to acknowledge as the Paramount power in India. Not a vestige of power was to be left in the hands of Queen Tara Bai, who was only to receive a fixed yearly pension from the State. After thus dictating peace, the Governor-General returned to Calcutta.

In 1854, Maharaja Jayaji Rao Sindhia attained his majority, and the British Government invested him with independent and full sovereign power in the administration of the State. His assumption of supreme power was, at the very outset, marked by his practical good sense and intelligent fore-sight in the happy selection that he made of his minister. Sir Dinkar Rao, who so ably and wisely administered the State affairs during Jayaji Rao's regime, was chosen to fill the important ministerial post with the acquiescence of the British Resident. The new minister inaugurated many wholesome political reforms in the State; but even for him the premiership was not disentangled from its attendant cares and anxieties. The political arena was no bed of roses for him to lounge upon. The great Indian Mutiny,* or the Sepoy's War, as it is termed, broke out in all its horrors in 1857. The subsidiary troops of Gwalior ill-advisedly co-operated with the

*Among the several causes that conspired to hasten this catastrophe, the following three chief sources of disaffection deserve special mention here:— (1) In 1856, the Government began to exact a strict condition from all the Sepoys prior to their enlistment in the army, that they would have no option of refusal to go wherever ordered; and such an undertaking was made a condition precedent to every appointment in the army. (2) The Government considerably augmented the general discontent by adopting a Policy of forgoing all the estates and *Jagirs* of native chieftains and landholders, who died without any issue, or mis-conducted themselves; and this became an occasion of excessive grumbling among the chiefs, who lost their confidence in the probity of the British *Raj*. (3) There were wide-spread and generally discomfoting reports that the Hindus as well as the Mahomedans were to be forcibly converted to Christianity, and that the British Government had really given its imprimatur to such schemes of proselytising mission. Though such an imputation had in reality no foundation of truth in it, the wild gossip too readily obtained a general currency among the credulous Sepoys, both Hindu and Mahomedan. The fears of profanation intensely heated their angry passions, and the flames were fanned by exaggerated misrepresentations of zealous *Jogees* (Hindu mendicants) and fanatic *Fakirs*, and a host of other mischievous men, who often personated these intolerant ascetics, Vagabonds and all the other ill-intentioned dregs of the population were let loose and actuated by the fine and tempting prospects of gain from the plunders that would inevitably follow such a social and political upheaval, they worked upon the credulity of the imbecile populace. The nominal Emperor of Delhi with his sons, Dhondu Panth alias Nana Saheb, the adopted son of the deceased Baji Rao Peshwa, the Begum of Oudh and the Rani of Jhansi, all these who had forfeited and lost their regal estates, from motives of self-interest headed the mutineers.

mutineers and participated in the many infamous atrocities perpetrated by them. Sindhia's own native forces made a common cause with the insurgent Sepoys; and they even went to the length of inviting Sindhia to join the rebel bands. On this trying occasion the noble-minded Sindhia succeeded in maintaining a strictly uniform attitude of loyalty to the Paramount power, and not only boldly refused to give any countenance to the refractory Sepoys, but generously extended his helping hand to the British in trying to suppress the Mutiny and crush their mischievous designs.

Finally, however, when Tatia Topi, one of the leaders of the recalcitrant mutineers, marched down with all his hosts upon the fort of Gwalior, which he invested from all sides, Jayaji Rao Sindhia thought it safe to evacuate the strong-hold, and he, with his minister Raja Sir Dinkar Rao, escaped to Agra, where they sought refuge under the British sway. In 1858, a detachment of British forces under Sir Hugh Rose and Sir Collin Campbell marched from Bombay, and when they came up to Gwalior, they performed feats of miraculous bravery and martial courage, while in a pitched battle they vanquished the revolutionary forces, assembled there under the leadership of Tatia Topi and the heroic Rani of Jhansi, Lakshmi Bai, the two valiant and intrepid supporters of the revolt. Vast stores of ammunition, that were laid up in the magazines at Kalpi, eventually fell into the hands of the English army under Sir Hugh Rose in May 1858. The victors were then directly confronted by the heroine of Jhansi, the dauntless Lakshmi Bai*, who courageously defended her fortress against the besiegers, until at last this female warrior, worthy of a better cause, perished.

*The following detailed particulars about the life of this chivalrous Queen and her regal estate of Jhansi will not be out of place here. The principality of Jhansi was situated to the north-west of Bundelkhand. This State once covered an area of 1568 sq. miles; and commanded an annual income of about twenty *laks* of rupees. In 1817, the year of the decline of the Peshwai, this State acknowledged the suzerainty of the British power. The last of the kings of Jhansi, Gangadhar Rao, who had ascended the *gadi* in 1838, expired in 1853, after fifteen years' enjoyment of supreme power. As he had no issue to claim the *gadi* after his demise, he adopted one of his distant relatives—one Anand Rao, a youth of fifteen—as his son on the eve of his death, and in accordance with the terms of a treaty entered into with the British in 1817, he asked the Resident to sanction the adoption deed. Lord Dalhousie, the then Governor-General of India, was at this period freely extending his policy of amalgamation in every direction, and following the precedents of the states of the Punjab, Berar and Satara, which had been annexed to the British dominions, he resolved to resume even the State of Jhansi and absorb it into the British *Raj*. The Resident, consequently, demanded the surrender of the fort of Jhansi from the widow of Gangadhar Rao, the renowned Lakshmi Bai. The Rani was much chafed at this,

on the plains of Gwalior, manfully fighting with the English soldiers. The fortress of Gwalior succumbed to the English arms, and was by them restored to the possession of Jayaji Rao Sindhia. In recognition of his loyal and friendly relations to the British, they gratefully ceded to him vast tracts of surrounding dominion, yielding an annual income of three *lakhs* of rupees, reserving for themselves only the citadel of Gwalior and the encampment at Morar. A reduction was, also, made in the amount of the tribute, Sindhia had to pay to the Paramount power. The last scene in the harrowing drama of the Indian Mutiny ended in the tragic fate of Tatia Topi, who was at last captured by the English army. His share in the massacre of the English at Cawnpore having been indisputably proved, he had to pay for it with his life-blood. He suffered the fate of a rebel; he was hanged. Thus perished Tatia Topi, the accomplice of the gallant Lakshmi Bai; their fates presented a sad contrast; she fell like a soldier on the battlefield with her martial sword in her hand; he died like a common miscreant, an ordinary felon, with the halter and the rope round his neck.

The Mutiny was quelled and the insurgent mutineers were all discomfited. In recognition of Jayaji Rao's friendly intentions towards the Paramount power, he was enrolled a Grand Knight Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, and was invested with the *insignia* of the order with due *cerat*. He was also presented with a *Saraul*, authorising him to adopt an heir to the *gadi* after him in accordance with the tenets of the Hindu scriptures. Underneath such smooth surface, however, there was lurking a suspicion in the breast of the Viceroy, that Sindhia had really secretly harboured Nana Sahib, the rebel chief; and owing to this apprehension the relations with Sindhia became for a time cold, formal and frigid. Even the story ran for a short while that Nana Sahib was covertly receiving every clandestine support from Sindhia; but on closer

and she sent an angry reply to the effect that, she would sooner part with her life than with Jhansi, whereupon the State was violently confiscated by the British, and was annexed to their dominions. In 1857, when the Mutiny broke out with that sudden crash, the vindictive Rani took an active part with the insurgents, with the object of wreaking her vengeance on the British Raj. On the 17th July 1858, the plains of Gwalior witnessed a memorable sight, when Sir Hugh Rose and his chosen band of warriors were gallantly opposed by this chivalrous Queen, who rode on a stately charger, by the side of her heroic sister- both clad in warlike array and covered with steel-armour. She perished under the shower of bullets from the English army, and her corpse was, on the spot, consigned to the funeral pyre by her attached retainers.

investigation, this gossip proved to be entirely groundless. In order to ward off such baseless imputations and vindicate his upright behaviour, Sindhia, in 1874, apprehended a suspicious stranger, who looked like Nana Saheb in having only one eye, and delivered him over into the custody of the English. After a searching inquiry, however, he turned out to be quite an unknown stranger and was thereupon set free from his confinement.

The enlightened Sindhia so keenly appreciated the faithful services of his devoted premier, Raja Sir Dinkar Rao, that he graciously bestowed upon his deserving servant *jagiri* villages, yielding an annual income of five thousand rupees. It was not destined, however, that the Prince and the Premier should have many more days of intimate and amicable relations between them. Mischief-mongers were brewing mischief, and the Prince's ears were poisoned by jealous courtiers with damaging whispers directed against the minister's good name, till at last the injured courtier sought to abandon his thankless task by promptly tendering a resignation of his ministerial post. As a parting gift, and in memory of the many happy moments they had passed together in each other's company, the generous Maharaja bestowed upon the retiring Diwan a *jagir*, worth fifty thousand a year. In 1864 Baija Bai, the grand-mother of Sindhia, expired, and with her the cash allowances that were paid to her also ceased. In 1875, Maharaja Malhar Rao, the then Gaekwad of Baroda, was charged with the heinous offence of an attempt to poison Colonel Phayre, the Resident at the time. A commission was appointed to try the royal offender, with authority to investigate the offence and to report the final decision they would arrive at in the trial. Jayaji Rao Sindhia worked on this commission as one of its prominent members, in company with Maharaja Ram Singh of Jaipur and Raja Sir Dinkar Rao, his former devoted minister. These three commissioners found that there was no satisfactory evidence of the Gaekwad's guilt, and they returned a verdict of not guilty; but to their great disappointment and concern, they found that their opinion was not endorsed by the higher authorities. At the close of the same year, the Prince of Wales, destined, in the ordinary course of events, one day to wear the Imperial Crown of India, visited this vast Empire, the brightest jewel in the British diadem; and to welcome this Royal Guest, Jayaji Rao Sindhia repaired to Calcutta. The Prince on his return visited Gwalior, where he witnessed, among the many pageants, an imposing review of about 8000 troops held by Sindhia in his honour. On this occasion a sham fight and the manœuvres of actual attack and defence in a battle were exhibited; Sindhia in person leading one party.

to combat the other, headed by the commander-in-chief of his forces. The spectacle afforded much amusement to the Prince.

On the 1st January 1877, when Lord Lytton, the Viceroy for the time being, held the Imperial Darbar at Delhi, where the Royal Proclamation was to be read out, on the occasion of the assumption, by Her Majesty Queen Victoria, of the dignified title of the Empress of India, Jayaji Rao Sindhia was present at the Imperial Assemblage. Sindhia, on this occasion, received an increase of two salutes of honour to the nineteen to which he was already entitled. He was presented with a stately horse richly caparisoned, and a magnificent standard, bearing the royal coat of arms, together with the high sounding title of Hisam-us-Saltanat; i.e., commander-in-chief of the British Empire. Sindhia was also nominated a member of the Imperial Council, established in India that day by the orders of the Kaiser-i-Hind (Empress of India).

In 1875, Lord Lytton, the Viceroy, finally restored to Sindhia the Gwalior castle and the Military cantonment at Morar, in recognition of Jayaji Rao's unswerving loyalty and fidelity to the Queen-Empress. The evening of the 20th June 1886 witnessed a very sad event in the annals of Gwalior. Maharaja Jayaji Rao expired in the 52nd year of his life, leaving after him his young prince Madho Rao, who ascended the *gadi* at the very tender age of ten. Madho Rao is the present reigning Maharaja, occupying the illustrious *gadi* of Sindhia.

During his minority, the administration of the State was entrusted to a Council of Regency appointed in pursuance of the wishes of the deceased Maharaja, and with the approval of the Supreme Government. In 1886, Rao Raja, Sir Ganpat Rao Khadkey K. C. S. I., who, for more than twenty years had served Jayaji Rao Sindhia, in the important capacity of the Dewan and Karbhari was nominated President of the Council of Regency, and he had with him, as his colleagues, seven principal Sirdars and officers of the State. The Council was authorised to carry on the affairs of the State of Gwalior with the concurrence of the British Resident, who held final powers of supervision over the administration, and was instructed to lose no time in introducing measures of reform in the internal management of the State. Improvements have been effected in all the various branches of the administration and a considerable amount of success has attended their laudable efforts for the prevention and suppression of crimes throughout the territory, Dacoity, which had been formerly practised on an extensive scale in the country, has since been put down with an iron hand. On the installa-

tion of Maharaja Madho Rao, all the transit duties throughout the State were abolished by a proclamation issued on the 25th September 1886.

On the 16th February 1887, on the occasion of the Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress, the loyal Maharaja Madho Rao Sindhia took a prominent part in the rejoicings, held in celebration of that auspicious day. A salute of 101 guns was fired in honour of the Empress and a magnificent Darbar was held in the spacious halls of the Jaya Vilas Palace. In the presence of Colonel Bannerman, the then Resident, and Dr. Crawford, an address breathing a sincere tone of loyalty, was read by the President of the Regency council, Rao Raja Sir Ganpat Rao. It expressed, among others, the following sentiments of devotion to the Crown. That the manifestations of joy, on the part of the residents of Gwalior, were far from being the outcome of mere lip-homage and feigned respect for the throne; they were, on the contrary, sincere outpourings of cordial feelings for the person of the August Sovereign; that, on that occasion they were chained to the British throne by ties of closer intimacy; their old citadel had been restored to them; the accession of His Highness Madho Rao Sindhia to the throne had been approved of by the Paramount power; that satisfactory arrangements had been made for the education of the young Maharaja, that Colonel Bannerman, at the express desire of the Maharaja, was to lay the foundation-stone, that day, of the Victoria College, which, they hoped, would ever be a standing monument of the glorious Jubilee; a main road, to be styled the Empress Road, was, also, to be constructed in commemoration of that happy occasion; that owing to famine and the scarcity of provisions in the Gwalior and Ishagaz districts, revenue out-standings to the amount of 81 *lakhs* were to be remitted by the gracious Maharaja; that the police troops were to receive an increase to their pay, that obnoxious taxes and petty duties were to be abolished; that debtors, who had been imprisoned for their civil liabilities, were to be restored to freedom and their creditors were to be paid off from the coffers of the State; that pliant and well-behaved felons were, also, to be pardoned and set at liberty; and that a new caravanserai was to be opened for the comfort of travellers, and named after Lord Dufferin, the Indian representative of Her Gracious Majesty, for the time being. That night the city of Gwalior and the Cantonment of Morar were beautifully illuminated in honour of the Jubilee-celebration.

In the year 1887, a large loan, of the amount of three and a half *crores* of rupees was offered by the Regency Council to the British Government with interest at the rate of four per cent per annum. The State Treasury

was in very affluent circumstances, and upward of six *crores* of rupees were accumulated in its coffers; the Government of India approved of this investment of a portion of the funds in the manner above stated, and the terms of this transaction were embodied in an Agreement on the 1st April 1887. The last instalment of this loan was paid to the Supreme Government on the 3rd September of that year. Twice in a year, on the first days of the months of April and October, interest on this loan is paid to the State from the Agra Treasury. It was also stipulated that the loan was to be discharged by an yearly repayment of twelve *lakhs* to the State, the process of remission commencing one year after the Maharaja's attaining the age of majority.

On the 17th of August 1888, Rao Raja Sir Ganpat Rao expired, and with the approval of the Supreme Government and the Junior Maharani, Sakhiya Raja Sahiba Sindhia was appointed next Regent during the minority of Maharaja Madho Rao. Bapu Sahib Jadav, the maternal grandfather of the Maharaja, who was till then a member of the Council of Regency was raised to the post of the President of the Council. It was, however, expressly provided that the Maharani was not to interfere with the administration of the public affairs, and she was deprived of all executive powers in the State. In January 1891, the Maharaja was wedded to a Princess of the Satara family in the Bombay Presidency.

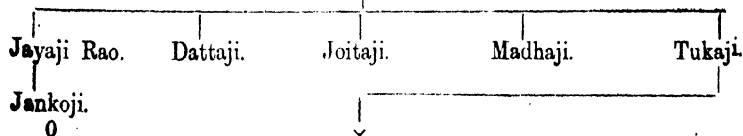
In May 1891, the Maharani Regent was honoured with the *insignia* of the Imperial Order of the Crown of India.

Satisfactory arrangements have been made for imparting education and culture to the young Maharaja, and in February 1890, Mr. J. W. D. Johnstone, Principal of the Daly College at Indore, was appointed tutor to His Highness, with the approval of the Maharani Regent and the other members of the Council of Regency.

The Maharaja of Gwalior has full criminal jurisdiction within his territories, and has the power of awarding capital punishment. His Highness Maharaja Madho Rao Sindhia is entitled to a salute of 19 guns, while within the limits of his own territories, he is entitled to a salute of 21 guns. His Highness is now about 17 years of age.

Genealogical tree.

Ranoji.



x

Daulat Rao. (adopted).

Jankoji Rao. („)

Jayaji Rao. („)

Madho Rao.

(The Present Maharaja.)

Residence.—Gwalior, Gwalior Agency; Central India.



INDORE OR THE , DOMINIONS OF HOLKAR.

Area.—8400 Square miles. Population.—1,099,990.

Revenue.—76,00,000—rupees

Indore or the Dominions of Holkar, is bounded on the north by part of Sindhia's dominions; on the east by the States of Dhar and Dewas and the District of Nimar; on the south by the Khandesh District in the Bombay Presidency; and on the west by the States of Dhar and Barvani.

The rulers of Indore belong to the Maratha sept. Their rule was founded by Malhar Rao Holkar, a Dhangar, whose father followed the humble profession of a goat-herd and weaver of blankets, and resided at the small village of Hol, on the banks of the river Nera, near Phaltan, on the estate of Nimbalkar. His name was Cundajee. His wife belonged to a higher class, for her brother Narayanji Bargul is said to have been a petty land-lord. Malhar Rao was only five years old at the time of his father's demise in 1667-68. The widowed mother carried the infant to her brother's house, at Talandah in Khandesh. The maternal uncle used to send his boy-nephew to tend his flock of sheep. According to a family tradition, the life of this future hero was miraculously saved by a serpent, while he was engaged in his daily avocation. The boy-shepherd, once overcome by the scorching heat, on a sultry summer noon, lay himself down and slept on the road, fully exposed to the burning rays of the Sun. A cobra taking pity on him, expanded his hood and interposed it like a parasol between the boy's beaming face, and the burning Sun, to protect it from the killing heat. Narayanji, when informed of the miraculous escape of his nephew, put a most favourable interpretation on the occurrence, and deeming it a good omen, determined upon rescuing his nephew from the obscurity to which he was consigned, by raising him to the more respectable position of a cavalier.

Narayanji was, by some arrangement, bound to serve as a *Pattavat* in the ranks of Kadam Bande, a Maratha chief of rank. He placed the young Malhar Rao in command of the small detachment, which he sent in his master's service. The Marathas were then at war with the Mahomedan Emperors of Delhi, for supremacy in the Deccan. In the very commencement of the campaign, Malhar Rao had the good fortune to exhibit his bravery by slaying a general in the army of Nizam-ul-Mulk. The Peshwa, struck with his gallantry, promoted him to the rank of the commander of five hundred horse, while the Chief of Bandi recognised his merits by extending to him the privilege of keeping in his army the hereditary flag of the Bandi family.

Malhar Rao thus entered the army of the Peshwa in 1724. Beginning his career as the head of five hundred horse, he within four years rose to a very high rank in the army. In 1728, the Peshwa rewarded his services by the grant of 12 *parganas* to the north of the Narbada; to which 20 more were added in the year 1731. At the same time the Peshwa by an autograph letter entrusted to his care the general preservation of Maratha interests in Malwa.

When Dia Be'adur, the Suba of Malwa, rose against the Marathas in the ensuing year (1732). Malhar Rao was put in command of the troops, despatched against him. Indore, together with the greater portion of the territories, recently conquered by his prowess, were assigned to him by the Peshwa, for the support of his troops. He was, in 1735, appointed Commander-in-chief of the Maratha forces, stationed to the north of the river Narbada. Three years later, Malhar Rao distinguished himself by gallantly attacking and defeating the Mughal army under the command of the intrepid Nizam-ul-Mulk (1748). The central authorities at Delhi, after this defeat, recognised the supremacy of the Marathas over that part of the country lying between the rivers Chambal and Narbada.

For eleven years after the occurrence of this event, Malhar Rao went on continually adding lustre to his fame as a soldier, as well as increasing the territorial extent of his realms. He met with no serious impediment in his progress, and the series of successes, which always attended his march, whetted his appetite for further-aggrandisement. He was the first to conceive the ambitious scheme of establishing a universal Maratha Empire, which, he thought could not be successfully accomplished unless the weak Mughal Emperor, then nominally reigning at Delhi, was dethroned and a Maratha General of rare ability and courage installed on the Imperial *Masnad*. It was perhaps with this view, that he agreed to assist Safdar Jang, the Nawab-Wazier of Oudh, against the incursions of the Rohillas, in 1751. During the struggle, he added considerably to the reputation already achieved as a great soldier of tact and resource. He particularly distinguished himself in a night-attack, which he led with a small body of troops against the innumerable hosts of his opponents. Sir John Malcolm thus describes the stratagem, to which he resorted, and which ensured him success: " He directed torches and lights to be tied to the horns of several thousand cattle, which were driven in one direction, while in another, he placed lights on every burk and tree, and when this was done, he marched silently in the dark by a different route to the attack. The enemy, pressed in one quarter by an actual assault, and seeing lights in several others, thought themselves surrounded and in danger of destruction

they dispersed and fled in dismay leaving their camp to be plundered by the conquerors, whose leader acquired a just increase of fame from the victory."¹ As a recompense for his bravery, Malhar Rao was granted a deed, authorizing him to collect *Sirdeshmukhi* (a due of twelve and a half per cent on the revenue) in the district of Chandore.

In the memorable battle of Panipat with Ahmed Shah Abdali, Malhar Rao Holkar was, with Sindhia, in charge of the right phalanx of the Maratha army. Sadashiv Rao, the generalissimo of the Maratha troops, evinced supreme contempt for the skill of this consummate master of military tactics, and often treated him with open insult. On the morning of the ill-fated day, on which the Maratha fabric was shred to pieces, Malhar Rao entreated his commander to delay the action, but his advice was spurned by the vain Sadashiv with the laconic taunt. " Who wants the counsel of a goat-herd?" While proceeding to join the main body of the army, Malhar Rao was suddenly assailed by the enemy. Though defeated in the scuffle, he boldly made his way to the central line, and without losing courage routed the enemy in several skirmishes. He advised the Maratha commander, Sadashiv Rao, to steadfastly adhere to the Maratha system of warfare, which consisted in retreating a little to allow their enemy to pursue them, and then suddenly falling upon them and putting them to rout. This wholesome advice was also rejected by the commander with great contempt. It was this departure from their beaten track that resulted in the disastrous defeat on the field of Panipat, on the 6th of January 1761.

Malhar Rao returned to Central India, where he applied himself assiduously to the task of settling his possessions. His endeavours were crowned with success owing to his liberal policy, firmness of purpose, and superior intellect. He gained over the 'hearts of his subjects' by the gravity of his manners. He died in the year 1765, at an advanced age of 76 years. 'Although inferior to Madhaji Sindhia as a statesman, Malhar Rao was his equal, if not his superior, as a warrior.' He has bequeathed to his descendants rich territories yielding an annual income of 7,600,000. rupees. Malhar Rao was blessed with only one son, Khande Rao, who had fallen during the siege of Khambhir near Dig, some years previous to the fatal battle of Panipat. He, however, had left behind him a son, Mali Rao, by his wife, the illustrious Ahalya Bai. He succeeded his grand-father, Malhar Rao, but died insane, after a short reign of nine months. After his death the government was conducted by his mother Ahalya Bai.

¹ Sir John Malcolm's Central India and Malwa; reprinted third edition Vol I P. 124.

This woman of immortal fame, held the reins of government in her hands for upwards of 30 years, during which period, she had to make a bold stand against formidable difficulties, thrown in her way by scheming court-intriguers. In the very beginning of her career she had to deal with that arch-intriguer, Raghoba Dada, the uncle of the reigning Peshwa. He used all his influence in persuading, nay, compelling Ahalya Bai to adopt a son and transfer the helm of the administration to him. His object in doing so was to place a puppet on the throne of Indore, and monopolize to himself the sole power in the State. He was, however, baffled in his plans on account of the still greater influence of Madhav Rao Peshwa and other Maratha chieftains, who all sided with Ahalya Bai. The great soldier and statesman of the day, Madhaji Sindhia, also expressed himself in favour of Ahalya Bai. Raghunath Rao, thus left alone, could not carry out his object. Ahalya Bai, with the unanimous consent of the Maratha confederates, was placed in charge of the vast dominions bequeathed by the great Malhar Rao.

When she was securely seated on the *gadi*, her first work was to select a suitable person to command her mighty troops. India was in those days governed by the sword, the fundamental principle of State craft being "might is right" (His is the sword who wields it; his is the domain, who wins it). It goes without saying that she had to exercise all her wisdom in making an appropriate selection. After trying several youths her choice fell upon Tukaji Holkar, one of her clan, but in no way related to her. He was ripe in years, resolute, modest and contented, and was loved and respected by men of all parties, who had ever come in contact with him. It is not too much to assert that a better choice could not have been made. Tukaji and Ahalya Bai, connected together by no other tie than that of mutual love and esteem, carried on the government with marked ability for one generation. The comfort and happiness enjoyed by the subjects of Indore during those 30 years, were unprecedented in the annals of Malwa, nor have they been equalled even in the days of subsequent rulers. Sir John Malcolm thus describes their *modus operandi* in carrying on the government. "When Tukaji was in the Deccan, (he remained there at one period for 12 years) all the territories of the family, south of the Satpuda range, were managed by him, and countries north of that limit were under Ahalya Bai, to whom the different tributaries also made their annual payments. While he was in Hindusthan, (he never remained long in Malwa) he collected the revenues of the countries, that

had been acquired there, and in Bundelkhand, and also the tributes of Rajputana. The districts in Malwa and Nimar continued, as usual, under the direction of Ahalya Bai; and her authority was on such occasions extended over the possessions in the Deccan. The treasures of the family which were very considerable (said to have been 2 millions) remained with Ahalya Bai, and she had, besides, personal estates yielding annually above four *lakhs* of rupees, which with the hoard above mentioned, were entirely expended at her discretion; while all the rest of the receipts were brought into a general account and applied to the expenditure of the government. The accounts were kept with scrupulous exactness; and Ahalya Bai after paying the Civil and Militia charges, sent the balance that remained in the public treasury, to supply the exigencies of the army, employed abroad."* It also appears that Tukaji, even from the most distant climes in which he was often engaged, referred to Ahalya Bai complicated problems of State, in which the general interests of the government were involved. The envoys, residing at the Courts of Indian potentates, great or small, were all appointed by this discreet woman.

During the 30 years of her rule Ahalya Bai received that allegiance and respect from feudatories and sovereigns, which might well excite the envy of any prince or princess in any part of the country. She was a Godly woman and devoted much of her time to the task of offering her prayers to the Creator. Absorbed as she was in pious meditation, she was always ready to transact any public business, which called for her tact and skill. She sat every day for a considerable period in open Darbar transacting business. Her first principle of government appears to have been moderate assessment, and an almost sacred respect for the native rights of village-officers and proprietors of lands. She heard every complaint in person, and although she continually referred causes to courts of equity and arbitration and to her ministers for settlement, she was always accessible; and so strong was her sense of duty on all points connected with the distribution of justice that she is represented as not only patient, but unwearied in the investigation of the most insignificant causes, when appeals were made to her decision" †

It appears from the very minute narrative supplied to Sir John Malcolm by one Barmul Dada of the daily occupation of Ahalya Bai, that she went about two o'clock to her Darbar, where she usually remained till six in the

* Sir John Malcolm's Central India and Malwa; reprinted third edition Vol I P. 136.

† Sir John Malcolm's Central India and Malwa; reprinted third edition Vol I. p. 146

evening, and after three hours' repose she resumed her work at nine o'clock, and closing it at eleven she retired for rest. She was so assiduous in her management of affairs, and her relations with foreign princes were of such an amicable character, that her territories were never invaded except on one occasion, when too, the attempt proved unsuccessful. Her internal administration was equally remarkable. She always evinced a maternal regard for the welfare of her subjects, and under her they were so happy and contented, that no Indian sovereign in any age could boast of a more contented ryot. The embellishment of her capital, Indore, was one of the many memorable events which immortalized her rule. From a petty village it rose under her fostering care, to a wealthy city. She constructed several fortresses within her realms, and the steep ascent of the Vindhya Mountains was rendered passable by a road of easy slope, constructed at an enormous expense. She also undertook gigantic works of charity and public usefulness.

This divinely gifted lady worn out with care and fatigue, expired in 1795, at the age of 60 years. Sir John Malcolm, one of her greatest admirers thus writes of her in his memorable annals of Malwa: "The more enquiry is pursued, the more admiration is excited; but it appears above all extraordinary, how she had mental and bodily powers to go through all the labours she imposed upon herself, and which from the age of 30 to that of 60, when she died, were unremitted. The hours gained from the affairs of State were all given to acts of devotion and charity; and a deep sense of religion appears to have strengthened her mind in the performance of her worldly duties.

She used to say that she deemed herself answerable to God for every exercise of power. Although our surprise and admiration are primarily aroused by her marvellous energy and force of character, as exhibited in the administration of the vast territories committed to her care, we are more touched by the many stories that tell of her love and tenderness in watching and nursing her insane son, and of her inconsolable sorrow on his death. Nor did this charming softness of character belong to her only as a mother, for we read that the lofty affection, she felt, as a sovereign princess, for her people, was displayed in a vigilant regard for their happiness and welfare, and in countless acts of private charity and royal munificence."¹ She is described by Malcolm as of middle stature and very thin. Her

complexion, which was of a dark olive, was clear. She was very cheerful and seldom in anger, but when provoked by wickedness or crime, even the most esteemed of her attendants trembled to approach her. Her mind was well cultivated, and she was singularly quick and clear witted in the transaction of public business. She was impervious to flattery. Under her maternal care the State prospered, and the people grew happy. With her subjects her name is sainted, and she is styled an *avatar* (incarnation of the divinity). Ahalya Bai was a real blessing to her people, and we only wish that our country were blessed with many more rulers of her stamp!

While closing the civil administration of Ahalya Bai, let us briefly refer to the military policy of her co-adjutor, Tukaji Holkar. We find him in concert with Madhaji Sindhia, resisting the march of the English troops under Colonel Goddard, in Gujarat in the year 1780; while six years later he ran to the succour of the Nawab of Savanur, who was hard pressed by the 'Tiger of Mysore' (1786). He introduced the European system of warfare and discipline in his army, and in 1792 employed in his service a French officer, named Chevalier Dudrenec, to train four of his battalions in the improved military tactics of the West. In the battle of Lakheri, near Ajmere, the army of Holkar consisted of 30,000 men, including the above-mentioned four battalions, and they fought valiantly against 20,000 horse, and 9,000 well disciplined infantry under the command of Gopal Rao Bhau. The army of Sindhia too was trained and disciplined after the European fashion under the command of the well-known French officer, De Boigne, and it was the first to assail the army of Holkar. Dudrenec's men made a bold stand, until all of them perished, and although Tukaji sustained a signal defeat and lost all his guns, he, without losing heart, adhered to the line of defence adopted by the French Chevalier.

Tukaji did not long survive his benefactress. He died two years later in 1797, leaving behind him four sons. Of these, Khasi Rao and Malhar Rao were born of his wedded wife; while Vithoji and Jasvant Rao were his illegitimate sons. Khasi Rao seemed to be a man of weak intellect, while the younger Malhar Rao was endued with all the necessary qualifications of an efficient ruler. These four youths were, after the demise of their father, invited to the Court of Poona, and it was expected in all quarters that the Peshwa would support the promising Malhar Rao, in his claims to the throne of Indore. Daulat Rao Sindhia was then all-powerful at the Peshwa's Court, and it was his supreme interest that the government of Indore should fall into weaker hands. He opposed the claims of Malhar Rao, and expressed

himself in favour of the elder son Khasi Rao. He also made a night attack upon Holkar's camp, and slaying Malhar Rao, took his son Khande Rao prisoner. Vithoji and Jasant Rao succeeded in eluding their pursuers, but the former was subsequently seized, while plundering in the Deccan, and was cruelly murdered.

The subjects of Holkar had now all their hopes centred in Jasant Rao. He fled from Poona and sought refuge at the Court of Nagpur, where he was treacherously apprehended. He shortly after escaped from his place of confinement, and wandered from place to place for full one year. During these days of adversity, he exhibited rare courage, bravery, and other high virtues with which he was naturally endowed. His fame reached the very capital of Holkar, and he was unanimously invited by the army and the people to assume the reins of government in his hands. He at last proceeded to Indore, where he was received with open arms. He was soon after joined by the well trained battalions under M. Dudrenec, by Amir Khan and his Pathan followers, and lastly by hordes of Pindhari free-booters. He set aside the claims of the insane Khasi Rao, and proclaiming his nephew, Khande Rao, as the rightful Holkar, he assumed to himself all the powers of a Regent. He subsequently seized all the rich treasures, hoarded by Ahalya Bai at Indore. In the beginning of his career, he promised to pay his troops regularly, but he was compelled to violate his pledge partly on account of the increased expenditure in the State, and partly on account of his unbounded ambition. He obtained resources for the payment of his troops from the territories of his rival Sindhia, and his master Peshwa, which he now boldly plundered. He had no scruples in resorting to that policy, and Daulat Rao Sindhia, hearing of the successes of his antagonist, returned to his capital to prevent any further spoliation.

An interminable war was now declared between the rival chiefs, Sindhia and Holkar. The Peshwa espoused the cause of Daulat Rao Sindhia, who, for a time, remained the sole master of the situation. Jasant Rao Holkar, eluding their attention, at once marched upon Poona, the capital of the Peshwa, where the defending army was completely routed, and the effeminate Baji Rao fled and took refuge in the hill-fort of Bassein. The English ran to his rescue, and expelling Jasant Rao from the capital, they restored it to the ungrateful Peshwa. The overthrow of the Peshwa, his cowardly escape to Bassein, the success of Jasant Rao Holkar, and the rising influence of Daulat Rao Sindhia, all combined to lead to the final overthrow of the Peshwa, and to the conclusion of the treaty of Bassein. Jasant Rao then

returned to his territories, and silently watched with interest the result of the contest between Sindhia and the English, without taking any part in it. If he had favoured his co-religionist with his help, the struggle would have ended differently. The reason, which prompted him to assume such a neutral attitude, remains yet unknown. The result of the struggle was in the commencement dubious, and it is not at all surprising that a soldier of Jasvant Rao's ambition should have thus remained aloof, without adding his strength to either party. As soon as he learnt that the English arms were successful, he sent a message to the British general in command of the army, that he was ready and willing to co-operate with them against the vanquished Sindhia: He had previously allowed the golden opportunity to slip, and promised his assistance to the English when it was no longer needed. He demanded from them certain territories in lieu of his services, and began to harass the Rajput States under British protection. Exasperated by his overbearing conduct, the English at last declared war with him in 1804. In the beginning, the Holkar's arms were for a time successful. The British general Colonel Monson was defeated and obliged to fly, leaving behind him all his baggage and artillery. Jasvant Rao proceeded to Delhi, and besieged it, but without success. He was defeated by the English generals Fraser and Monson at Dig, where 87 of his guns were captured by the victors. Lord Lake defeated another detachment of his troops at Farukabad and completely routed it. Dig subsequently fell into the hands of the victors. It belonged to the Jat chief of Bharatpur, a staunch ally of Jasvant Rao Holkar. The victorious army of the English then marched towards Indore, and captured it together with other fortresses in the vicinity. At last the English troops beleaguered the hitherto impregnable fort of Bharatpur. The Jat chief, remaining inside the citadel, made a gallant defence, and repulsed four of their onslaughts. The English soldiers were firm and persevering, and at last the chief bowed before their indomitable courage, and sued for peace, by giving 20 *lakhs* of rupees to the English, and abandoning the cause of Holkar. Jasvant Rao, on being informed of the capitulation of Bharatpur and the submission of its chief, fled towards the Punjab. There he was pursued by the gallant and intrepid Lord Lake. When he saw that all was lost, and that his life was in imminent peril, he surrendered himself to the British general, and acknowledging the supremacy of the Paramount power, he meekly implored that his life might be saved. The generous and magnanimous conquerors pardoned him all his faults, and restored to him all his territories. In 1805 a small portion of

his State, which was retained by the English as a penalty, was also restored to him.

Jasvant Rao Holkar, having become free from the broils in which he had been so long engaged, returned to his capital, and set himself to the task of introducing several reforms in his militia. It had, during the late wars, received several additions, and had become a mass of undisciplined and untrained rabble. He at once reduced its number to meet the resources of his State, and made discipline and military training compulsory among its ranks. Many soldiers were consequently thrown out of employment. Those who were thus turned out grew discontented, and rising against their master, they proclaimed his nephew, Khande Rao, then 11 years old, as the true reigning sovereign. Jasvant Rao was unscrupulous enough to adopt any means to gain his end, and leaving aside the riotous mob, he once for all got rid of his rival claimant, the young Khande Rao, by poisoning him. The cruel murderer, a short time after, treacherously killed his brother, Khasi Rao, and his unfortunate pregnant wife. Having thus made a clean sweep of all persons who stood in his way, he engaged himself in reforming the soldiery. He founded several gun factories in the capital, and there worked in person as a common labourer. Thus straining his nerve to the utmost, and giving himself up to all sorts of Bacchanalian orgies, he grew extremely irascible, and often became vexed beyond measure if his order was disobeyed even in the slightest degree. His head began to reel, his mind was deranged, and in 1808 he became quite insane. His madness grew so violent that it was found necessary to keep him under restraint. All possible means were employed to cure him of his malady, but they proved futile. He continued in that state for about a year, and then became a confirmed lunatic. After lingering in that miserable state for two years, he died on 20th October 1811, at Bambura.

Jasvant Rao Holkar was an intelligent, middle-sized, and strong-built man. He was of a dark complexion, and had lost one of his eyes. While summing up his character, Captain Grant Duff says:—"The chief feature of Jasvant Rao's character was that hardy spirit of energy and enterprise, which, though like that of his countrymen, boundless in success, was not to be discouraged by trying reverses". He knew how to read and write both Persian and Marathi. He was a frank, polite and ready-witted chief. These were the only good traits of his character; otherwise he was full of all vices. His extravagance often times amounted to merely self-willed spendthriftiness. He was cruel, heartless, and spoliator of his subjects. Besides these, he was peevish, jealous and tyrannical to an extreme.

During the insanity of Jasvant Rao, the administration was conducted by his mistress, Tulsi Bai. This lady was exceedingly beautiful, fascinating and intelligent. She adopted Malhar Rao, the son of Jasvant Rao by another of his mistresses, then aged four years, and during his minority which was likely to last long, she made arrangements to hold, in her own hands, the reins of government in her capacity as Queen-Regent.

During the life-time of her lord, she had conferred the responsible post of Dewan upon one, Balaram Shet, whom she honestly believed to be her faithful partisan. The new militia created by Jasvant Rao required, after his death, a firmer hand than Tulsi Bai's to keep it under subordination. The troops flew into rebellion for the payment of their stipends, and began to plunder the territories of neighbouring princes. They even flinched not from proceeding onward, and sacking those regions, which lay at a great distance from the capital. That tie of unity, with which the whole State was held bound under the fostering care of Ahalya Bai and Tukaji, was now snapped, and disunion and dissension were rampant throughout the province. The demands of the discontented and fierce soldiery grew so oppressive and threatening that Tulsi Bai was compelled to seek shelter in the strong-hold of Gungrao. There she became a mere instrument of torture and oppression in the hands of her paramour, Ganpat Rao, a person of low birth and wicked designs. In concert with him, she hatched a mean and disgraceful plot against the life of the faithful premier, Balaram Shet. He was sent for at midnight by Tulsi Bai, and when he arrived he was received by her, attended by Ganpat Rao and a few of her servants. After several accusations from Tulsi Bai, to which he pleaded not guilty, had been summarily gone into, the final sentence was announced by that despicable woman. "Strike off his head," exclaimed the unrelenting Tulsi Bai, and Ganpat Rao, with two of his attendants, perpetrated this atrocious deed. This foul murder, instead of abating the cry of the Military, enhanced it, and the wretched lady, with her paramour, was compelled to fly to the fort of Alote in 1817. It was exactly at this juncture that a war was declared by the English against the Pindharies. An English army was lying encamped near Ujjein, ready to march against the predatory gangs of the Pindharies. Tulsi Bai now thought of taking advantage of that favourable situation, and she forthwith applied to the English general to take her and her infant son under his protection. In the meantime, a war was declared between the English and the Peshwa, when a strong and influential party at Holkar's Court openly declared their intention of espousing the

cause of their puppet chief, the Peshwa, against the intruding foreigners. Tulsi Bai found herself quite helpless against the firm determination of that powerful faction. The command of her army had by that time devolved upon certain Pathan adventurers, over whom she had no control. They were strongly averse to coming to any terms with the English. They exhibited their feelings of hostility towards the British Government, by seizing the person of the infant prince Malhar Rao, by beheading the Queen-Regent Tulsi Bai, and by arresting her paramour, Ganpat Rao.

Tulsi Bai was decapitated on 20th December 1817 on the banks of the river Kshipra. Sir John Malcolm thus describes her character:—“She was not 30 years of age, when she was murdered. She was handsome and likewise remarkable for the fascination of her manners and quickness of intellect. Few surpassed her in a fluent eloquence, which persuaded those who approached her to promote her wishes. She rode (an essential quality in a Maratha lady) with grace; and was always, when on horse-back, attended by a large party of the females of the first families in the State. But there was never a more remarkable instance than in the history of this Princess, how the most prodigal gifts of nature may be perverted by an indulgence of vicious habits. Though not the wife¹ of Jasvant Rao, yet being in charge of his family, and having possession of the child, who was declared his heir, she was obeyed as his widow. As the favourite of the deceased and the guardian of their actual chief, she had, among the adherents of the Holkar family, the strongest impressions in her favour; but casting all away, she lived unrespected and died unpitied.”* On the next day after the execution of Tulsi Bai, Holkar’s army, under the command of the Pathan leaders, sustained a signal defeat on the plains of Mahidpur. The young Prince, Malhar Rao, who was then 15 years old, was seated on an elephant. He is said to have fought with conspicuous bravery, but when he saw that his soldiers were flying in confusion, the boy-hero burst into tears. The treaty of Mandesur was signed a fortnight after, on 6th January 1818. He lost, under the terms of that treaty, two-thirds of his territories, and was reduced to the subordinate position of a feudatory monarch. The principal terms of the treaty were:—

¹ She was a woman of low caste, a Kumbar or pot-maker. She was married prior to her acquaintance with Jasvant Rao; he saw her, fell in love with her, and in a few days she was in his house and her husband in prison. Eventually the husband received as compensation for the loss of his handsome wife, a horse, a dress, and a small sum of money. Colonel Malleon’s Historical sketch of the Native States of India, PP. 187-88.

*Sir John Malcolm’s Central India and Malwa, reprinted third edition; Vol I, PP. 255-56

- (1.) That Holkar should cede to the British Government all the territories within and to the south of the Satapuda range.
- (2.) That he should renounce all his conquests in, and claims upon, the Native States of Rajputana.
- (3.) That he should cede to the Raja of Kota the four districts formerly leased by him.
- (4.) That all the estates belonging to Holkar, but held by Amir Khan and Gafur Khan, should be retained in their possession, and that Gafur Khan should in addition be assisted by a contingent of 600 cavalry.
- (5.) The British Government, in return, undertook to protect the interests of Holkar against all foreign aggrandizement. The sad remnants of a vast territory, now left in the hands of the successor of the great Malhar Rao who had consolidated this powerful State, then yielded but an annual income of 12 *lakhs* of rupees, which amount has in our days risen to nearly 76 *lakhs*.

The treaty of 1818 was signed by Tantia Jogh, the Dewan, who, in accordance with its terms, now directed his attention to the reorganisation of the army, and the proper settlement of the land revenues. The English Government encouraged him in his noble and praiseworthy attempt. He would have certainly been foiled in all his patriotic projects, had it not been for the friendly assistance of the English Government. The State treasury was drained to the bottom, and disorder reigned supreme everywhere. He was only enabled to swim across this sea of difficulties by the pecuniary assistance, rendered him by the Imperial Government. In the midst of these reforms two serious disturbances broke out in the State in the year 1819, which enhanced his difficulties, and it was not before long, that the province was restored to its old prosperity. One of these insurrections was headed by a Pretender, who assumed the name of Malhar Rao Holkar; while the other was headed by a Holkar's cousin Hari Rao. The Pretender, whose real name was KrishnaKoer, assembled a large army, to the west of the river Chambal, and continued for a time to wage war against the ruling authority, but on being overthrown by the Dewan at the head of a detachment of Holkar's troops, raised after the battle of Mahidpur, and trained under English officers, he made his escape to Kota. He was there identified and thrown into prison, but when it was proved to the satisfaction of all concerned that he created the disturbance simply at the instigation of other people, he was set at liberty. Hari Rao's rebellion was of a less formidable character. He

THE HIND RAJASTHAN.

soon repented for his past folly, and sought shelter at the court of his offended cousin. It was the desire of Holkar to grant him a free pardon, but his minister, Tantia Jogh, explained to him the peril of allowing such a dangerous character to go scot-free, and he was imprisoned and kept at Mahaisir.

In April 1826, died that clever and intrepid minister, who exerted his utmost for the amelioration of the dominion, entrusted to his care. He was succeeded by Raoji Trimbak, who did not hold the reins of government for a long time. He was dismissed at the expiration of one year, and was replaced by Daeji Bakshi. He was soon found unqualified to hold that place, and the responsible Dewanship was soon conferred upon a clever and learned Pandit, Appa Rao Krishna. In his time fresh stipulations were entered into with the English, by which they obtained the monopoly of purchasing all opium grown in Malwa. The new arrangement was encumbered with several difficulties, and although it had finally to be given up, heavy duties were imposed upon opium, carried to the neighbouring sea-port towns through the British territory (1829).

Malhar Rao Holkar hardly paid any attention to public affairs. He was an extravagant and depraved prince; who brought ruin upon his State, by following the advice of low-born associates. Of the three Dewans, succeeding Raoji Trimbak, no one was a man of respectable position. The natural consequence of such a short-sighted policy was that the State revenues were considerably reduced, and the whole province once more lapsed into the same degraded state, in which it had fallen before the battle of Mahidpur. The State coffers were thoroughly exhausted, and the soldiers grew rebellious. In 1829, the eyes of the monarch were opened to the difficulties, which had beset him on all sides. He promised to remove them by introducing the needed reforms, and appealed to his mother, who had hoarded immense treasures, to grant him loans of money and extricate him out of the difficulty. In accordance with her advice Appa Rao Krishna was soon dismissed, and Madhav Rao Fadnavis was appointed in his place.

Malhar Rao Holkar expired in the month of October 1833. He died without leaving any offspring, and his widow, Gotuma Bai, with the consent of her mother-in-law, adopted one Bapu Rao Holkar, a clansman of Malhar Rao, and not far removed in descent from Tukaji Holkar. He was named Martand Rao, and was installed on the *gadi* with all religious ceremonies on 17th January 1834. The British Government gave their formal sanction to the adoption, and agreed to recognise him as the Sovereign Lord of Indore and its territories, on an express understanding, that they would cease to extend

him their protection, if he was ever found scheming to encroach his neighbour's power, or to act against the wishes of the Sardars or other influential members of Holkar's family. While these arrangements were being made, the cousin of the late Holkar, who was still alive, incarcerated in the hill-fort of Mahisir, was let loose by his partisans. He was conveyed to Mandesur, where he was duly proclaimed the rightful sovereign of Indore on 2nd February 1834. The soldiers and other subjects forsaking the cause of the young prince, Martand Rao, flocked in large numbers to his side, and on 17th April 1834, Hari Rao was invested with all the regal paraphernalia of Maharaja Holkar, in the very presence of the British Resident. Martand Rao was then banished the Holkar's territory, and a monthly pension of Rs. 500 was allotted to him in consideration of his relinquishing all his claims to the *gadi*.

The new Holkar was, however, utterly incapable of efficiently carrying on the government. He was weak, cowardly and unconfiding, while his youthful ardour was completely cooled down by a long imprisonment for 15 years. He, following the practice of barbarous days, wreaked his vengeance upon all, who had espoused the cause of his rival, Martand Rao, and conferred the Dewanship upon a man of straw, named Rivaji Phansia. The new Holkar had remained, for the last 15 years, confined in a corner of the State, and was hopelessly ignorant of the current laws and usages. His minister, too, had spent his days in poverty, which had made him greedy and avaricious; and after his elevation, his first care was to replenish his own private coffers. The crowning vice of this new Dewan was drunkenness not regulated by moderation. He commenced his career by arranging a match between the illegitimate daughter of his master and his eldest son, Dada Bhau, and several rich districts were assigned in dowry to the royal bride. Thus the impoverished State was, by the very first act of the Dewan, deprived of at least a twelfth part of its revenues.

During the administration of this incapable Dewan, the State grew from bad to worse; its revenues steadily going down, while the expenses of the State undergoing proportionate enhancement. By the end of 1834, the revenues amounted to only 9,25,000 rupees, while the expenditure rose to 23,69,000 rupees. It is not too much to say that such a pecuniary crisis was brought about by the financial policy adopted by Rivaji Phansia. He was, like his master, Hari Rao, a great coward. He always represented to the stupid monarch, that the troops would have often risen into rebellion had they not been checkmated by his courage, skill and tact. He decreased or

increased the number of soldiers in the army according to his own whim. He borrowed loans from the local bankers, at exorbitant rates of interest, to meet the increased charges of the Militia. But such a policy, contrary to the very fundamental principles of Political Economy, could not last long, and in 1835, he was in imminent peril of losing his power and influence. An elaborate plot was formed against him by Madhav Rao Fadnavis, the last of Malhar Rao Holkar's Dewans. On the 8th of September of the same year (1835), an armed band of 300 persons, headed by two officers of the late Holkar, entered Indore. They proceeded as far as the palace, without meeting with the least opposition, and were there re-inforced by some men, serving in the king's army. If they had boldly persevered in their preconcerted plan, their attempt would have been crowned with success, but the two ringleaders went into the palace to consult the wishes of Malhar Rao's widow, who was then residing there. She rebuked them for their fool-hardy assault, and refused to give them any assistance. They were quite dispirited, and were at a loss to decide what course to pursue. In the meantime the faithful guards of Hari Rao's palace fell upon the assaulting mob, and hemmed them in on all sides. Seeing that every thing was lost, the two leaders drew their swords, and a general massacre ensued. The party of the Three Hundred and their adherents were all cut to pieces, and not a single soul could effect his escape. This unexpected attack so completely unnerved the timid Hari Rao, that he is said never to have come out of his palace after the occurrence of that event; nor for fifteen months, after the detection of this conspiracy, did he even cross the threshold of his room in the palace.

At last the crisis was reached, and Rivaḷi Phansia could no longer obtain funds to steer the State-charge clear of all rocks. The State had lost all credit with the money-lenders, and the premier had no other alternative left him, but to tender resignation of his place. This inevitable event took place in November 1836, and his place was given to one Salik Rama Mantri.

Notwithstanding the above-mentioned change in the *personnel* of the administration, the British Government, in 1837-38, found it imperatively necessary to interfere owing to the ever increasing disorder in the State. An ultimatum was sent to Hari Rao, stating that, if within the prescribed period the British Resident did not report to the Supreme Government that important reforms had been introduced in the State, the Governor General would deem it expedient to do so through the agency of the

British officers. Hari Rao Holkar was terrified into appointing one Abaji Ballal, a man of known respectability and rectitude, as his Dewan. Within a short period of his administration he introduced several important reforms; adopted a general policy of retrenchment, dismissed corrupt officers, who had appropriated to themselves large sums of State revenues; allotted handsome compensations to those ryots, from whom the late Dewan had mercilessly extorted their well gotten wealth; and introduced the new and improved system of land revenue.

Hari Rao Holkar died on the 23rd of October 1843, without any male issue. Before his death he had adopted one Khande Rao, a child of 13 years, the son of an insignificant *Jagirdar*, distantly related to the reigning House. This deed was ratified by the British Government, but Khande Rao died three months after his accession to the *gadi*. After his death, the mother of Hari Rao, with the consent of the Paramount Power, adopted a younger son of Bhau Holkar, and the India Government gave its formal sanction to his installation.

The name of this prince was Malhar Rao. He was then only ten years old, and had a beautiful, beaming countenance. On the 27th of June, 1844, Sir Robert Hamilton, the then Resident of Indore, duly installed him on the *gadi*, under the appellation of Tukaji Rao Holkar. During his minority the administration was carried on by a Council of Regency. The natural genius of the young Maharaja exhibited signs of wonderful development, and the members of the Council expressed their satisfaction at the growing desire of the youth to become personally acquainted with the minutest details of the administration. With a view to satisfy this laudable craving, Tukaji Rao was entrusted with the work of supervising certain important departments in the State. It was resolved that all cheques, drawn upon the State treasury, should bear the signature of the Maharaja. This afforded him a free scope to investigate into all items of receipts and disbursements, and it also served as a healthy check upon all those inconsiderate officers, who here-to-fore drew largely on State-funds. This circumstance was brought to the notice of H. E. Lord Hardinge, the then Governor-General of India, and so highly pleased was he to find the youthful Holkar taking such an interest in the Financial administration of his State, that he wrote an autograph letter to the Maharaja, expressing his satisfaction at his growing desire for knowledge, and wrote another letter to the Queen-mother, congratulating her upon the happy selection. As a fitting conclusion to the education received at the Rajkumar

College, the Maharaja, in 1851-52, set out on a tour through Northern India, in course of which he visited Agra, Delhi, Haradwar, Rurki, Jeypur and several other places of interest. Shortly after his return, he attained the usual age of majority, and the India Government expressed its willingness to invest the Maharaja with uncontrolled powers in the State. A Grand-Durbar was accordingly held on 8th March 1852, to which the feudatory chiefs and landlords were invited. The ceremony of coronation being over, Sir Robert Hamilton, the British Resident at the Court of Indore, and a sincere friend and well-wisher of the youthful Maharaja, placed in the hands of Tukaji Rao a letter from the Governor-General, saying that the Indian Representative of H. M. Queen Victoria had deemed him amply qualified to efficiently carry on the government of the vast dominions, of which the destinies were that day placed in his hands. He also expressed his sincere hope, that he would not falsify the very high expectations formed of him from his noble antecedents, and that he would always be deserving of the esteem and confidence, in which he was then held by the British Crown. In 1853 Maharaja Holkar, during the course of his second tour, visited Bombay, Poona and other places in the South of the Peninsula.

At the time of the dreadful Indian Mutiny of 1857, Holkar's army lay scattered throughout the State, with its weapons and equipments out of order, and ammunition completely exhausted. Sir Henry Durand was then the Resident at the Court of Indore. He was, for some reason or other, not on friendly terms with the Maharaja. The Durbar asked the British Resident to supply the State army with the necessary munitions of war. He at once telegraphed to Lord Elphinstone, the Governor of Bombay, to send him 1000 guns. Once while telegraphing to Lord Elphinstone, for a similar help, it came to the knowledge of Colonel Durand, that among the guns fired at the Residency by the malcontents, there were included those that had been obtained at their request from the Holkar's artillery for the protection of the British Residency and Treasury. Before the ammunition ordered out from Bombay reached Indore, Colonel Durand assembled together his partisans and resolved to quit the capital. With very great difficulty could he convey their wives and children to Sclore, and leaving them there, he with his followers joined, at Asirgarh, the body of English troops sent from Bombay to preserve order in the Central Provinces. With the help of this re-inforcement he captured Dhar, while Nimach was saved on account of the two scuffles that took place near Mandesur. The Supreme Government did not hold Maharaja Holkar answerable for the desertion

of his troops. Lord Elphinstone, too, was of opinion that the step taken by Colonel Durand in thus leaving the Court of Holkar was rash and ill-advised. His precipitate departure from Indore gave rise to two different conjectures, one of which was that the Maharaja had turned out a traitor, and the other, that the British officer had quitted Indore without any justification whatsoever. It was Sir Henry Durand's firm conviction that all native princes were responsible for the conduct of their soldiery, and all his arguments were primarily based upon that fundamental premiss. The author of the 'Sepoy War' distinctly says in his work, that looking with an impartial eye at the conduct of Holkar during the first week of the month of July, he was decidedly of opinion that the sympathies of the Maharaja were all on the side of the English. Lord Elphinstone, too, in a letter to Colonel Durand, writes, 'Your suspicions about the Maharaja's infidelity seem to me groundless. From what has transpired at Indore after your departure, it clearly appears that Holkar should be exculpated from the guilt of participating in the attack upon the Residency. I have not the slightest doubt that if that influential chief had risen against us, there would have been a serious commotion through out Central India. The eyes of all the petty chiefs were turned towards him; and the evil consequences of his disaffection would have been felt even upto the limits of Gujarat. My information about Maharaja's loyalty has been obtained from such a reliable source, and confirmed from so many quarters, that I entreat you to disencumber your heart of all the unfounded suspicions against Maharaja's conduct. We are, in fact, thankful to him for the peace and tranquillity reigning in Malwa and Gujarat'.

Notwithstanding the able advocacy of Lord Elphinstone regarding Tujaji Rao's innocence, the unfavourable opinion formed of him by the Supreme Government could not be so easily removed. No doubt, he was honoured with the title of the "Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India," yet he was studiously excluded from that class of princes, who, according to native ideas, received the highest reward for their services, in the shape of rich territorial grants. Maharaja Holkar felt bitterly for such an invidious distinction, and he often complained to the India Government of the gross injustice done him by the British officers. The last time he was heard to complain against the shabby treatment he had received at the hands of the English Government, was in his communica-

tion with Marquis of Dufferin, the late Viceroy of India. A formal deed of adoption was granted to him along with other princes in the year 1862.

In 1865 the Maharaja liberally ceded certain lands, free of compensation, required for the purposes of a Railway passing through his State, with all civil and criminal jurisdiction, reserving to himself only the rights of Sovereignty thereon. In addition to that, with the true instinct of a great financier, he, in the name of himself, his heirs and his successors, lent to the India Government one *crore* of rupees, for a stated period of 101 years, at the rate of four percent and a half, for the purpose of constructing the Holkar State Railway. The Maharaja next directed his attention to the improvement of the land revenue system by the introduction of the Survey Settlement. According to this new system, the cultivator's right of ownership was converted into a mere right of occupancy. The Government became the real owners of the land, which was allowed to be disposed of in any manner best calculated to promote the interests of the cultivators. The assessment fixed on each acre was considered very high. Only the income of that portion of the lands, which had been restored to him by the British Government in 1861, rose under the new system, from 28,000 to 100, 000 rupees. The land holders, deprived of their hereditary ownership, raised a hue and cry against this innovation, and the complaints reached the ears of the British Resident. On being asked by General Daly to furnish an explanation for the repeated complaints made against his maladministration, he very cleverly replied :—'The cry against the new system of land revenue is not so much levelled against its injustice as against the undue haste with which it has been introduced. No doubt the assessment has undergone a considerable enhancement, but that is no reason why such an important measure should not be readily carried out. I considered it more politic to take the burthen off the shoulders of my heirs and successors, and to take all the opprobrium to myself, rather than leave it in heritage to my children. True it is that the ryots have lodged complaints against my misrule, but I hope you will not mind them. No good Government can be a popular Government. I know that your Government, howsoever beneficial it may be, is not yet popular, nor do I know of any such utopian Government.'

The Maharaja, Holkar, was in fact his own minister, personally controlling all the branches of the administration. Such a state of things continued till a radical change was effected in the mode of government by the appointment, in 1872, of Raja Sir T. Madhav Rao, K. C. S. I., as his

premier. He held in his hands exclusively the double function of making, as well as administering, laws. There was a cabinet of ministers, but its power did not extend beyond the sphere of simply promulgating and executing the royal mandates. After the appointment of Raja Sir T. Madhav Rao to the responsible post of the Dewan, the mode of administration, as appears from the Annual Report for the year 1873-74, was as under :—

The heads of different departments used to submit their papers to the Premier for his signature. In some important matters they consulted his wishes, prior to taking any final action. In matters touching the very vitals of the State, beset with insuperable difficulties, all the ministers used to meet together in a council, and there discussed those questions. All the Ministers were thus rendered jointly and severally liable for their actions. In matters of daily routine, the Maharaja was not consulted; but all those cases in which either extraordinary expenditure was involved, or which treated of political relations with the British Government, or in which the life and death of his subjects were concerned, were referred to him for his orders. The Revenue Department was always under the control of the Maharaja.

In 1869 Maharaja Tukaji Rao opened in his capital a Spinning and Weaving Factory, which having proved successful, he has in course of time added one more, which too, has proved a profitable concern to the State. All the cotton growing in Malwa and Nimar is for the most part consumed in these mills. The Maharaja derives considerable private profits from these transactions.

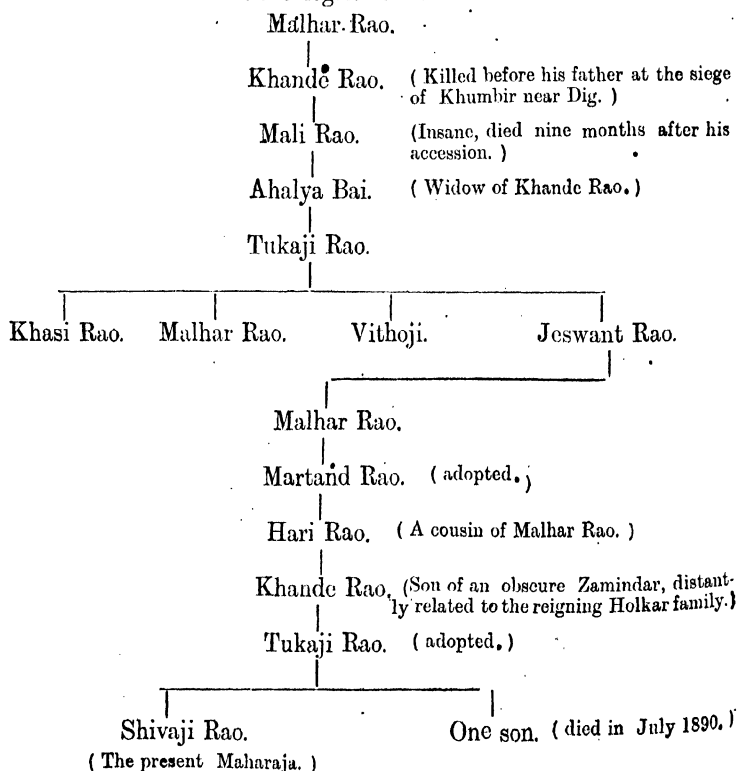
H. H. Maharaja Tukaji Rao repaired to Calcutta to do homage to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, on his visit to India in the year 1875. The Royal guest was most cordially welcomed to the Maharaja's capital, which he visited on 9th March 1876. The Heir-Apparent to the British Throne, was there entertained with the display of a rustic dance performed by 300 Bhils and their wives. The Prince was so much delighted with the hilarity of these aborigines that he is said to have humorously remarked that their dance was a sort of imitation of the European Ball system.

The Maharaja also attended the Imperial Assemblage, held at Delhi, by H. E. Lord Lytton, on the 1st of January 1877, in honor of the assumption by H. M. Queen Victoria of the august title of Empress of India. The salute of 19 guns to which he was here-to-fore entitled was then raised

to 21 guns. He was also dignified with the title of the "Counsellor of the Empress".

H. H. Maharaja Sir Tukaji Rao Holkar, G. C. S. I., breathed his last in 1886, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Shivaji Rao, the present Maharaja. In the month of June 1887, when all England was merry over the Jubilee of H. M. Queen Victoria's glorious reign, Maharaja Holkar proceeded to that country, to take part in the rejoicings. He was there decorated, by H. G. M. the Queen Empress, with the *insignia* of a G. C. I. E. The young Maharaja promises to be an intelligent and energetic ruler, inheriting all the noble qualities of his worthy sire. He holds Judicial powers of life and death over his subjects, and is entitled to a salute of 21 guns, within the limits of his territory, and 19 guns elsewhere.

Genealogical tree.



Residence :—Indore, Indore Agency; Central India.

MEWAD.

(145)

MEWAD.

(Udaipur.)

Area.—12,670 Sq. miles. Population.—17,08,814.

Revenue.—37,50,000 rupees.

Mewad is bounded on the north by Ajmere; by the States of Sirohi and Iranpura on the west; on the south it touches the Agency of Mahi-Kantha in Gujarat, and the States of Dungarpur and Banswara; while on the east are situated the British encampment at Neemuch, and a part of Malwa, as well as the territories under the sway of the Chief of Kota. The province of Marwad lies extended to its north-west; while on its south-eastern boundary lie the domains owned by the ruler of Pratapgadh. The Native State of Bundi covers its north-eastern frontier; while further to its north-west lies the land of Merwara, a portion of which owes fealty to its suzerain, the rulers of Mewad, though its management rests with the British Government.

The family from which the Ranas of Mewad claim their descent, is of a very ancient origin and great renown. They are Sisodiya Rajputs, sprung from the senior branch of the Sun-born race of the Kshatriyas. In days of yore, Mewad was held by the Mori Parmar Kings, who had their seat of Government at Chitod. From their hands, however, it was wrested, in 728, by the celebrated Bappa Rawal, the heroic ancestor of the Sisodiyas. The history of this valiant prince and the ancient chivalrous stock from which he inherited his heroic blood and martial qualities, is very romantic, and as an unflagging interest attaches to his tale, it is proposed to sketch the family history of the Ranas from remote antiquity down to the stirring events which marked the career of the mighty Bappa.

First, on the throne of Ayodhya, sat Ikshvaku, the son of the Great Manu, the progenitor of the Sun-born race, and his pious wife, Satrupa. From him descended a galaxy of great princes, whose names have been borne down to us on the wings of fame; the most illustrious of them being the god-like Shri Ramchandra, fifty-seventh in descent from the founder of the House. When Rama held the royal sceptre at Ayodhya, his faithful consort Sita, a paragon of feminine virtues and excellence, was carried away perforce by the powerful Lord of Lanka, Ravana, who was held up to general execration for his unbounded conceit and unbridled voluptuousness. This

bold outrage brought, in its train, the great invasion of the island and a fierce contest between the hostile factions. With the support of Hanumana, the valiant monkey demi-god, whose descendants are believed to occupy, at the present day, the throne of Porbundar, in Kathiawad, Rama succeeded in slaying Rawan and recovering his lost wife. The martial and strategic skill, and the chivalrous valour, which the youthful hero then displayed were superhuman; and his admiring subjects, struck with his extraordinary feats of strength, deemed him an incarnation of the Deity, and paid divine honours to him. To this day Rama is worshipped as an embodiment of the Divine Spark, delegated to accomplish the pious mission of slaying the demon, Rawan, and his vile associates.

Lava, the eldest son of Rama, transferred his seat of government from Ayodhya* to Lahore, a town in the Panjab, which he founded on the banks of the Ravi. After the demise of Lava, several rulers occupied the throne of Ayodhya, and they may be passed over with a simple mention of their names. They were:—

* Rajputs of various tribes ruled over Ayodhya after this period, and they held sovereignty there till the advent of the Mahomedan rule. Then it passed into the hands of the Mahomedan Emperors of Delhi. In 1724, when Mahomed Shah occupied the imperial *Masnad*, and when the Empire under him was reduced to a mere skeleton of its former greatness, Shahadat Ali Khan, one of his Courtiers, thought of satisfying his lust of power by making himself master of that district. After him, his nephew Safdar Jang, who was appointed a Subedar of the province of Ayodhya, in about 1750, assumed real independence and threw off the mask of even nominal subservience to the throne of Delhi. In 1765 Shuja-ud-Daulah, with the support of the British Government, ascended the *gadi* of Ayodhya. Of his descendants, one even went so far as to assume the dignified title of the "Emperor of Oudh", in 1810. These Nawabs ruled with such severity over their subjects, that the British Paramount Power was compelled to resort to the policy of annexation in connection with this State. Vazid Ali Khan, the last of the Nawabs, was represented, by popular report, to be very weak, greedy, and voluptuous to effeminacy. He even stooped to dance with common Nauch girls. On the 13th of February 1856 he was dethroned, and the kingdom of Oudh was annexed to the British dominions. Vazid Ali Khan was kept at Calcutta on a pension of Rs. 12,00,000 per annum. In 1857 when the great Mutiny broke out in the country the Begam of Oudh, who was very handsome and brave, dressed herself in male attire and raised the standard of revolt against the Paramount Power. Her heroic attempts at regaining her lost independence were, however, soon crushed before another year was over. The Nawabs of Oudh had their seat of government at Lucknow, and the city is still renowned for the architectural beauty of its public buildings—designed in the Saracenic style. Ayodhya is now in a ruined state, and though it may be classed among the large cities of India, on account of its pristine grandeur and fame, it has no longer any pretensions to be really called as such. Old and dilapidated remains of its spacious halls and mansions, and its rich shrines, may still be seen there. They have now become the haunts of the mendicant and the dervish. The city is thirty miles distant from Lucknow.

1 Atitha.	22 Viswasava.	43 Barriketoo.
2 Nissida.	23 Prisenjita.	44 Kretinjya.
3 Nala or Nabha.	24 Takhyac.	45 Rininjya.
4 Poondrika.	25 Vrehidbala.	46 Sunjeha.
5 Megdhunna.	26 Vrehitvira.	47 Sakya.
6 Bala.	27 Orookria.	48 Soodipa.
7 Sula.	28 Buchavrida.	49 Sangala.
8 Bajrnaba.	29 Prithitveoma.	50 Asamunjita.
9 Sojunsu.	30 Bhannoo.	51 Romika.
10 Visitaswa.	31 Sydeva.	52 Soorita.
11 Vidrita.	32 Vrehidiswa.	53 Soomitra.
12 Hirnaba.	33 Vahooman..	54 *
13 Poospaka.	34 Priteekooswa.	55 *
14 Soodursuna.	35 Soopritika.	56 *
15 Uggunvurna.	36 Murodeva.	57 *
16 Secgra.	37 Sonikhetra.	58 *
17 Murroo.	38 Pooshkura.	59 Maharita.
18 Prisisoota.	39 Rekha.	60 Antarita.
19 Setsunda.	40 Sootha.	61 Achilsena.
20 Amursunda.	41 Umitrajita.	62 Keneksen.
21 Avaswana.	42 Vrechitraja.	

*(The names of five rulers after Sumitra have not yet come to light.)

This Kanaksena, who was sixty-third in descent from Lava, migrated to Gujarat, where he succeeded in deposing a Parmar chief, whose throne he usurped, in 144. He built the city of Vadnagar and established himself there. He was succeeded by Mahamadansena, Sudeta and Vijayasena on the Vadnagar *gadi*. It was this Vijayasena, who founded the famous city of Vallabhipur †; and there are ample reasons to believe that Bhattaraka, a famous leader of forces, whose name is mentioned in old histories, must have been but a *nom de plume* of this very Vijayasena. After him, the throne of Vallabhipur was successively occupied by Dharasena, Dronasinh, Dhruvasena, Dharapat, Gohasena, ‡ Dharasena II, Shiladitya, Kharagraha, Dharasena III, Dhruvasena II, Dharasena IV, Dhruvasena III, Padmaditya, *alias* Kharagraha II, Sevaditya *alias* Shiladitya II, Haraditya *alias* Shiladitya III, Suryaditya or Shiladitya IV, Soma ditya or Shiladitya V, and lastly by Shiladitya VI.

†The city was in the vicinity of Vala, eighteen miles to the north-west of Bhavnagar, and its old remains are still visible, and are worth a visit.

‡Goha, the chief of Vallabhi, had, it is narrated in Indian histories, espoused a Persian princess a daughter of Noshirvan-the Shah of Persia. The mother of the bride was a daughter of Mares-the Christian Emperor of Constantinople. Very probably this Goha was the very Gohasena mentioned above.

When Shiladitya VI was the reigning monarch at Vallabhipur, the country was invaded by hosts of foreign barbarians, and in the fierce struggle that ensued Shiladitya was mortally wounded and slain. Vallabhipur was razed to the ground by the fanatic zeal of the foes. The date of the sack of Vallabhipur is differently chronicled in various historical accounts that have come down to us ; some put it down in the year 480, while others bring it down to 524. When the head of Shiladitya was rolling in the dust on the blood-stained battle-field, his favourite consort, Pushpavati, had been absent on a pilgrimage to the sacred shrine of Amba, worshipped by the Hindus as the Universal and Holy Mother. She thus escaped the general carnage that followed. She was *enceinte* at the time; so when the intelligence of the sad demise of her husband reached her, she betook herself to a cave in the neighbouring hills, with a view to perpetuate the line of her lord, by protecting the fetus. There, in that mountain retreat, she gave birth to a son, whom she confided to the care of a Brahmin lady, at Vadnagar, by name Kamalavati. She left instructions with her, to educate her ward in Sanskrit the language of the Brahmins and also enjoined her to seek for him in marriage the hand of a Kshatriya damsel. Thus leaving motherly instructions for her infant son, Pushpavati mounted the funeral pyre, anxious to meet her departed lord. As the orphan prince was born in a secluded cave, Kamalavati gave him the appellation of Goho, or the cave-born. When he attained the age of ten, he commenced his wanderings in the jungles of the Mahi Kantha, with the Bheels of Idar. With them he became a great favourite by his martial qualities and winning manners. They even expressed their desire to see him crowned their king. The Bheel-chief pierced his own finger with his knife, and with the blood thus extracted, made the auspicious red mark of royalty on Goho's forehead. From that day the youth was installed on the *gadi* of Idar. In the genealogy of the Idar chiefs given by Col. Tod, Goho appears as Gopa or Grahaditya. Col. Tod relates that this prince had to seek refuge in the woods of Bhandir. Goha's name served as a patronymic to his own son Nagaditya and his descendants, who were all styled after him Ghelote Rajputs. He was succeeded on the *gadi* of Idar by Nagaditya, Bhagaditya, Devaditya, Asaditya, Khala Bhoja and Grahaditya II. The last was also known by the name of Nagaditya II. Once, while he was hunting in the forest, the aboriginal Bheels assailed him all of a sudden, and he met with a violent death at their hands. The citadel of

Idar passed once more into the hands of these predatory Bhils. The deceased prince left behind him an infant son of three years, who was generally known by the name of Bappa. He was secretly removed by his mother, the Queen-Dowager, to the fortress of Bhandir, only a mile to the south-west of Jhalore, where he was placed under the protection of a Bhil chieftain. Shortly after, he was clandestinely removed to the wilds of Parasara, near the village of Nagda, situated about ten miles north of the site, where at the present day stands the gorgeous citadel of Udaipur. Bappa, when scarcely fifteen years old, was retained as a feudatory Sirdar, in the service of the Mori Parmar Chief of Chitod in Mewad, who at once saw through, and appreciated, the intelligence and courage of the youth. He was, from his very birth, gifted with very high qualities both of head and heart, and his fame as a brave and adventurous young man, together with his influence, waxed daily at the court of Chitod. This provoked the jealousy of the hereditary nobles, who could not brook to see themselves thus surpassed by an upstart of doubtful origin. They made no secret of their ill-feeling towards Bappa, which they openly avowed, and throwing up their grants, they at last left the capital, as a sign of their disapprobation. Circumstances, however, compelled them to show him their respectful regards, and they eventually returned and looked upon him as their chosen leader.

By this time, Bappa had grown such a powerful personage in the State, that he now thought of seizing upon Chitod: and with the assistance of the very nobles, who had, only recently, quitted the fort actuated by feelings of envy and malice, he succeeded in deposing the Mori Parmar Chief, and himself ascended the throne of Mewad in 728. From this date, Bappa became the supreme ruler of Mewad, and he assumed the high-sounding titles of "the Sun of the Hindus" (Hindu Soorya) "the preceptor of the princes (Raj Gooru)," and "the Universal conqueror" (Chakra Warti).

After his accession to the throne, there reigned peace and tranquillity for a time, at Chitod*; but in 764 Bappa carried his conquering arms, even so far as Persia, which he then invaded. There he was slain in a bloody battle fought with the enemy. After his death, the

* Chitod was wrested from the hands of Udai Singh, a descendant of Bappa, in 1568 by Emperor Akbar. His son Pratap Singh, made Komulmer the capital of Mewad, and in 1586 he redeemed the country, which his father had lost, and founded the city of Udaipur which is still the capital of Mewad.

gadi of Mewad was successively occupied by Gubit, Bhoj, Shil *alias* Aparajit, Kala Bhoja, Bhartari-Bhatt, Agh Sinh, Samhayak and Khuman. The last of these monarchs ascended the throne in 812. During his regime the country was invaded by swarms of Mahomedan freebooters from Jabulistan ; but they were all put to rout and their leader Mahomed was captured by the valiant prince. Khuman expired in 836, and the subsequent history of Mewad, for the next three centuries, remains, to this day, buried in blank oblivion. Nar Wahan, Shakti Kumar, Nar Warma, Kirti Warma, Bairad, Vair Sinh, Vijaya Sinh, Ari Sinh, Chand Sinh, Vikram Sinh, Khem Sinh, Samat Sinh, Kuman Sinh, Mathan Sinh, Padam Sinh, Jai Sinh, Tej Sinh, and Samar Sinh successively occupied the Mewad throne. The last, Samar Sinh, who was on the *gadi* of Chitod in the 12th century, was born in 1150, and his hand was sought in marriage by a sister of Prithiraj Chauhan, the last of the Rajput kings of Delhi. In 1192, when the hosts of Prithiraj Chauhan, and Shahab-ud-Din Ghorî—the Shah of Ghiznee—were joined in a battle-array on the banks of the Kagar, Samar Sinh led the Rajputs to the attack. For three days he fought with the courage of a lion, and fighting, he fell on the field rolling in a pool of blood. In him Prithiraj lost the main stay of his army, and all hopes of victory vanished with the departed hero. Samar Sinh left behind him three sons to mourn his loss, while the eldest or the fourth prince shared his father's fate on the same ill-fated plains, while fighting with the Mahomedans. His second son owned the *jagir* of Beeder ; and the third had placed himself at the head of the Goorkhas, of which tribe he had been the founder. The last and the youngest prince, Karan, who was then only an infant, was, therefore, selected by the Sirdars as their lord and the *gadi* of Chitod was entrusted to him. The mother of this boy-prince, however, who was a very clever and spirited woman, administered all the affairs of the State on behalf of this *roi fainéant*. This gifted woman was endowed with such a singularly courageous heart that when Kutub-ud-Din, the Goolam Emperor of Delhi (1206-1210), invaded her territories, she fought with extraordinary valour on the plains of Amber, and, in the fight, felled the heads of many a Moslem from their blood-stained trunks. The Emperor himself was wounded in that struggle.

Karan, on attaining the age of majority, took up the reins of government in his own hands and ruled with ability. When he died, his son, Mahapa, the heir-apparent to the throne, was residing at his maternal home ; and taking advantage of his absence, the son-in-law of Karan, who was the

Chief of Jhalore, placed his own child on the *gadi* of Chitod, after slaying the principal Ghelote leaders, who opposed his usurpation. When the news of this outrage reached the ears of Rahapa, Karan's nephew, who was then ruling over Sindh, he marched at the head of a large army, and invested Chitod in the year 1211. He drove away the Jhalore Chief, and seized the *insignias* of royalty for himself. When Rahapa ruled over Mewad, he had often to measure his strength with the Mahomedans, whom he encountered on many a field of battle. He was a prince, at once brave and intelligent; and it was he, who changed the name of his race from Ghelote to Sessodiya* and the title of the monarch from Rawal to Rana. These titles have come down to his descendants, and are enjoyed by them, to the present day.

For twenty-eight years, Rana Rahapa occupied the *gadi* of the Sessodiyas, and he expired in 1239. Narpati, Dinkar, Yush Karan, Nag Pal, Puran Pal, Prithvi Pal, Bhun Sinh, Bhaumya Sinh, and Jay Sinh, next came to the throne in due course of time. Of the nine Ranas, who thus successively rose to that high position, during a period of 36 years after Rahapa's demise, from 1239 to 1275, no less than six lost their precious lives in the Holy war, that they waged and carried on with great vigour against the Mahomedans, with a view to expel them from the sacred shrines of Benares and Allahabad, held in high esteem by the religious Hindus.

*“The names of the different clans are always derived from some memorable action of their founders. Thus, the royal family of Oudeypoor, the Sesoudias, owe their name to the following legend:—

One day, one of the Ranas was hunting, with his nobles, in the plains of Meywar, when by accident he swallowed a large fly; which, lodging in his stomach, caused him so much suffering that he wished to put an end to himself. But a fakir presented himself and offered to cure the Rana; and having, unobserved, cut off the tip of a cow's ear, the holy man wrapped it in a piece of linen, tied a piece of string to it, and made the Rana swallow it. This bait having reached his stomach, the fly took hold of it instinctively, and was easily drawn out. The prince, however, insisted on knowing the means employed; and the fakir, driven into a corner, at length told the terrible secret. Upon hearing that a part of the sacred animal has thus passed his lips, the Rana was in consternation. He felt himself unworthy of living after such a crime. Accordingly he determined to put an end to his existence, purifying his lips by swallowing molted lead. Surrounded by his weeping courtiers the prince took the vase with a firm hand, and emptied it at a draught; but, O miracle of the gods! the liquid metal passed his lips without burning them, having been transformed into deliciously cool water in his mouth. Recognising the divine protection in this wonderful transformation, the Rana and his tribe took the name of *sesodia*, derived from the substantive *Seesa*(lead). Some rival tribes pretend, it is true, that this name is derived from *seesa*(a hare), and that it was given to this tribe because its warriors one day abandoned the pursuit of the enemy to hunt a hare which had crossed their path. You see that puns are in vogue even among the Rajpoots.”

Louis Rousselet's India and its Native Princes, new edition 1882, pp. 155-57.

In 1275 Rana Lakhamasi ascended the throne of his fathers at Chitod. It was during his reign that Alla-ud-Din Khilji invaded Mewad; but the brave Rajputs of Mewad offered a stubborn resistance to the invading army and succeeded in driving the Emperor back to Delhi. Once more, in 1303 the rapacious Moslem assailed Chitod; but the motive which induced him to take up arms against the war-like Rajputs, on this occasion, was very different. Padmani, the wife of Bhimsi, the Rana's uncle, was, as her name very aptly signified, superlatively handsome; and the licentious Moslem, apprised of her extraordinary beauty, wished to admit her into his own seraglio at Delhi. Alla-ud-Din devised many a trick and laid various plans to catch only a glimpse of the beaming and shining face of that fair Rajputani; but when he was foiled in all his attempts, he finally sent an ultimatum to Lakhamasi, to the effect that their ruin was inevitable, if they did not soon allow him to have a look at their Queen of Beauty, even through the medium of a mirror. Padmani, in order to avert the threatened catastrophe, agreed to gratify the Emperor's morbid craving; but the wily monarch, while returning to his camp, from the palace, after gratifying his curiosity, laid violent hands on Bhimsi and made him prisoner. The Emperor's demand now waxed very high, and as the price of Bhimsi's liberty, he asked for the surrender of his virtuous wife. The guilt of the crafty Moslem sufficed to throw the whole of Chitod into a fit of consternation and angry excitement. Padmani, who had thus become the "apple of discord," besides being a brave and spirited Rajputani, was also a woman, full of wisdom and resource. The Thakaranees summoned the principal Rajput heroes and communicated to them a novel scheme which she had devised for the deliverance of her husband. In accordance with the plan thus formulated, an intimation was sent to Alla-ud-Din, that on the day he withdrew from his entrenchments the fair Padmani would be surrendered to him, attended with her maids of honour. On the day, thus fixed, for raising the siege no less than 700 rich palanquins and litters were got ready in the Rajput camp. In each was seated one of the bravest of the heroes armed cap-a-pie, who was borne on the shoulders of six armed men dressed in the guise of litter porters. Thus equipped, the whole cavalcade was ushered into the Imperial Camp; and just when they had gained the centre, the Rajput chieftains sprang to their feet, and with drawn swords in their hands, they fell upon the confused mob of the Mahomedan army. The Rajputs gave them no quarter, and the brave Moslems were mowed down without mercy. Alla-ud-Din thus out-manœuvred, managed to effect his escape to Delhi, and Bhimsi who was now

liberated, was brought back in triumph to Chitod. The ever resolute Alla-ud-Din, however, was not a man to be daunted at such reverses of fortune ; and he, for the third time, marched upon Chitod, at the head of a formidable army. The hostile forces fought with desperate valour, and in both the carnage was immense. Of the twelve sons of Lakhamsi, so many as eleven lost their heads, while fighting with patriotic zeal, in the cause of their country ; the twelfth and the last prince Ajay Sinh, who alone survived the slaughter, was, with great difficulty, prevailed upon by the Rana and his chief courtiers to fly to Kelvada. The scene on the battle-field was simply harrowing. The chivalrous Rajputs, clad in their saffron robes, fought with desperate valour against fearful odds ; and they were prepared to contest, with their foes, every inch of ground under them, till the last drop of blood flowed in their veins. Within the walls of the fortress their faithful wives, the Ranees and the Thakaranees, preferred death to sure captivity and pollution at the hands of the Moslem infidels, which would inevitably follow in the train of their proud victory. To escape such a degradation and to preserve the bed of their lords unsullied, they lighted the funeral pyre within the great subterranean recesses of the palace, and mounting the pile, put an end to their pure lives, with their chastity intact. With reckless despair, the Rana and his chieftains, who were prepared to sell their lives dearly, led the forlorn hope, and rushing into the midst of the enemy, were cut down to a man. Then alone, was Alla-ud-Din enabled to enter the deserted halls of desolate Chitod.

Ajay Sinh, who alone had survived the bloody disaster, by being sent away to Kelvada, now became the Rana of Mewad. During his reign he had to face a new and powerful foe in the person of the valiant Moonj, whom the Rana succeeded in repulsing with great slaughter. The Rana urged his two sons to chase the retiring foe, and exhorted them to sever the head of Moonj and lay it at his feet, if they had true royal blood running in their veins. None of them, however, had the heart to undertake the perilous task, and they held down their heads in shame. Hamir, the Rana's nephew, was, however, spirited enough to take up the gauntlet, and he instantly set out on his mission. He marched against Moonj, and fulfilling his vow, he eventually succeeded in cutting off the head of the foe, which he brought as his trophy, and he modestly placed it at his uncle's feet. The Rana upbraided his cowardly and worthless sons, and heaped upon them opprobrious taunts. One of them, stung to the quick at this disgrace, put an end to his wretched life by committing suicide ; while the other left for Dun-

garpur, where he set up an independent principality for himself. One of his descendants proceeded to the Deccan, and the illustrious Shivaji, the founder of the Maratha Empire, is said to have descended from this branch of the Kshatriya family.*

Rana Ajay Sinh breathed his last in 1310 ; and was succeeded by his nephew, the gallant Hamir, on the *gadi* of Kelvada. After the Mahomedan conquest of Chitod, the Emperor had appointed one Maldeo, a Rajput Sirdar of Jhalore, as the Suba of Chitod. Maldeo longed to see his own daughter wedded to Hamir, who was popularly regarded as being born of the purest blood among the Sessodiyas, and as the bravest of the Rajputs. Accordingly he sent the emblematic cocoanut—the harbinger of wedlock—to Hamir, which the latter thankfully accepted. Hamir repaired to Chitod with 500 retainers, and there he was joined in matrimony with the daughter of Maldeo. After the nuptials, when the bride and the bridegroom were left alone, to enjoy the sweets of the honeymoon, the girl revealed her past history to her lord, and acquainted him with the fact that she had already been married in her infancy, and that her late husband had since then died. It was a widow, therefore, that Hamir had just wedded ; but she besought him not to lose heart, or be sad

*Sajjan Sinh was thirteenth in descent from the prince, who had departed for Durgapur, as said above. He repaired to Bijapur, in the Deccan, where the Padshaha, pleased with his faithful and meritorious services, bestowed upon him the district of Mudhol, comprising about 84 villages, with the title of the Raja. The famous Shivaji was born in his line, and in 1664 he founded the Maratha kingdom in the south with Raegadh as its capital. Shahu, the grandson of Shivaji, removed the seat of government from Raegadh to Satara in 1708. He was succeeded on the *gadi* of Satara by Ramaraj and by Shahu II. The latter was, in 1801, deprived of his throne at Satara by his minister Baji Rao Peshwa, who, also, made his master a prisoner. Shahu died in captivity, and his two sons were also captives in the hands of the faithless minister. The elder Bala Saheb (Pratap Sinh) was restored to liberty by the British Government, and raised to his ancestral *gadi* of Satara, on the 25th of September 1819. He was also asked to enter into terms of alliance with the Paramount Power, by virtue of which, he was also granted an appandage yielding an annual income of Rs. 4,00,000. This territory lay between the Neera and the Varna streams ; and in the east it penetrated the regions of Pandharpur and Bijapur in the shape of a wedge. Balasaheb was, afterwards, suspected of treason, and for his mischievous and traitorous designs was deposed and kept at Benares as a state prisoner. The *gadi* next descended to his younger brother Appasaheb, on the 5th September 1838. In 1849, Appasaheb died childless, and Satara was annexed to the British dominions. Rajaram—the adopted son of the deceased—was silenced with a pension of Rs. 50,000 a year. Thus terminated the elder branch of the line, founded by the great Shivaji ; the junior branch is still represented by the chiefs of Kolhapur. Shambhaji, the son of Rajaram, who was the second son of Sivaji's son Shambhaji, founded the Kolhapur State, which is at present presided over by Shahu Raja.

over an occurrence, which was irrevokable, for in the knot there was no untying. She, however, assured him that with her assistance he would be able to recover Chitod in no time ; and Hamir was thus reconciled to his lot. He asked Maldeo to surrender to him the person of one Jal, a son of an old civil functionary in the State, and he was instantly handed over to Hamir. The Rana then returned to Kelvada, with his consort, by whom he had one son of the name of Khetsi. When the new-born prince was one year old, he was carried by the Ranees to Chitod, to be presented at the shrine of the tutelary deity, and to receive divine blessings. During this tour, she was accompanied by Jal, the officer in attendance, who used his great influence with the garrison of Chitod and gained it over to his side. At this critical juncture, Maldeo was absent from the capital, being engaged in a war with the Mer tribe. Taking advantage of the viceroy's absence, Hamir marched upon Chitod and forced his entry within the walls of the city. When intelligence of this disaster reached the ears of Mahomed, the Taghalak Emperor of Delhi, his rage knew no bounds ; and to vindicate the glory of the imperial arms, he advanced, with the *elite* of his army to recover Chitod from the hands of the Rajput. The gallant Hamir, at the head of his brave warriors, instantly marched forth to receive the approaching Moslem, and the two armies came face to face, on the plains of Gingoli. The onslaught of Hamir was irresistible, and he vigorously pressed the imperial troops from all sides. The Mahomedans could not withstand the attack, and were defeated with great slaughter. Emperor Mahomed, himself, was taken prisoner, and, for three months, was kept under restraint in the fortress of Chitod. He was liberated only when he agreed to pay, for his ransom, a sum of 50 *lakhs* of rupees with one hundred elephants, and also to cede the districts of Ajmere, Ranasthambhore, Nagore and Suisopur to the Rana of Mewad. Vanveer, the son of Maldeo, the late viceroy, accepted service under Hamir, who conferred upon him several grants of *jagir*. During Hamir's regime the boundaries of Mewad were greatly extended by foreign conquests, and many powerful chiefs were brought under his yoke by his indefatigable efforts in the cause of his country.

In 1365 Rana Hamir was carried away from this world, by the cruel hand of Death ; and he was succeeded on the *gadi* of Chitod, by his son Khetsi. He added new territories to his realm, and Mandalgadh, Dassore, and other fifty six districts, which he conquered, were also annexed to the dominions of Mewad. The Mahomedan Emperor of Delhi, again, sent a

large army under the command of one Humayun, for the seizure of Chitod, and the Rana had to fight a pitched battle with them on the plains of Bakrole. The Moslems were put to flight and suffered a crushing defeat ; Humayun, however, escaped with his life. Khetsi's hand was sought in marriage by the daughter of the Hada chief of Bundi, and when their nuptials were about to be celebrated, the Rana was stabbed in the heart by the knife of a vile assassin.

When the life of Khetsi was thus ignominiously cut short, Lakha mounted the *gadi* of the Ranas at Chitod. He instantly subjugated the mountainous region of Merwada, and levelled to the ground the old fortress of Vairatgadh, in the vicinity of which, however, he erected a new hill fort of the name of Beder. When Lakha had grown old, and his hair had become grey with age, an embassy of marriage was announced at his court ; and they brought the symbolical cocoanut as an offer of marriage for Chand, the Rana's son, from Ranamal, the son of the Raja of Marwad, on behalf of his sister. The bridegroom-elect was absent from the court when the cocoanut was placed at the Rana's feet ; whereupon, the aged Lakha, fondly caressing his grey moustaches, laughingly observed:- " I am sure, you never propose to offer such little play things for a snow-white beard like mine. " Chand, on coming to the court, was apprised of the jesting reply his aged father had returned to that " messenger of Hymen " from Marwad ; and he declined to accept the matrimonial offer, as he saw, that his old father, also craved the hand of the fair damsel for himself. The Rana exerted all his efforts to overcome his sense of delicacy and exhausted all his powers of persuasion to induce his son to accede to the proposed alliance, but Chand was resolute and prepared to sacrifice all his tender longings to those of his venerable father. The aged Rana, at last, agreed to accept the bride, in marriage, for himself, if Chand, on his part, undertook to renounce all his birth-right to the throne of Chitod, and offer no resistance to the accession of any prince, born of the new marriage. The dutiful Chand, thereupon, swore by the holy Ekalinga (the tutelary deity), and promised to withhold all his claims to the ancestral *gadi*, in favour of the infant heir, that might be born of the union. Lakha, accordingly, closed in with the offer of marriage, and was wedded to the bride of Marwad. A son was born of the wedlock, who was named Mokal Singh by his father. When the young prince was five years old, the aged Rana thought of visiting the sacred shrine of Allahabad, and passing the last days of his life there in peace and pious contemplation of God. On that occasion, Lakha, with a view to ascertain if

Chand still adhered to his old vow, asked him as to what estates were to be allotted to the young Mokul Sinh. The shrewd prince was at once able to fathom the secret emotions that were surging up in the inmost recesses of the heart of his old father, and he readily replied that the throne of Mewad was to fall to Mokul Sinh's share, and that he himself would willingly serve him as his vassal. With a solemn oath, Chand plighted his word of honour, that he would ever abide by his pledge, and the old king was satisfied. Mokul Sinh was duly crowned, and the aged Rana retired into solitude at Allahabad. To recompense Chand, for the noble sacrifice he had thus made for his younger brother, to whom their aged father was rather unjustifiably partial, it was agreed on that occasion, that the first seat of honour in the State should always be reserved for Chand, and that all the *sanads* of grants to the vassals of the crown were always to bear, in future, the mark of the lance, which was the symbol of Chand and his descendants, by way of counter-signature, to be added on to the sign-manual of the Rana.

For a time, Chand was at the helm of affairs, and carried on the administration on behalf of the infant Rana. As the suspicion of the Queen-Mother, however, was aroused at this, Chand left Mewad and repaired to Mandoo. At the time of his departure he commended the *gadi* of the Sessodiyas to the care of the Regent-Mother, and solemnly adjured her to protect its rights and privileges. Shortly after this, Ranmal, the prince of Marwad and the maternal uncle of the young Rana, accompanied by a band of Rathores, came over to Chitod, and assumed the reins of government in his own hands. With his infant nephew, Mokul Sinh, in his lap, he himself began to take his seat on the royal throne, and issued royal mandates in his own name. The Queen-Dowager remonstrated with her brother, but Ranmal heeded her not. At last she sent word to Chand, asking him to come to her relief and save the honour of the Sessodiyas. The chivalrous prince gave a ready response to the call, and hastening to Chitod, hunted out all the Rathore intruders, killed Ranmal and rescued the *gadi* of the Ranas from all imminent peril.

In 1419 Mokul Sinh was assassinated, and his place was taken by Rana Kumbhoji on the *gadi* of Chitod. It was this Rana who erected 32, out of the 84, strongholds of Mewad. Kumbhoji, however, was as profligate as he was brave, and was ever steeped into the vortex of dissipation. The princess of Jhalawad, who had been affianced to the Rathore chief of Marwad, was carried away perforce by Kumbhoji, who brought her to Chitod. The slight thus offered to the throne of Marwad was, however, not to be

calmly put up with by the fiery Rathores, who marched with a large army to Chitod, to retaliate the indignity and punish the insolent Rana. Kumbhoji, who was far from being a coward, instantly routed the invaders in a pitched battle, and forced them to retire. In 1440 Kumbhoji had to oppose the combined forces of the Mahomedan Subas of Gujarat and Malwa; but he succeeded in defeating them both and in capturing Mahomed, the valiant Subahdar of Malwa. In memory of this glorious victory, the Rana raised a huge and beautiful triumphal pillar on the citadel of Chitod, which still exists to the present day. Images of heroic and warlike Rajputs and chivalrous Rajputanees were elegantly carved on the pillar, but they have been, subsequently, disfigured by the fanatic Moslem invaders of later days. Rana Kumbhoji was himself a lover of the Poetic Muse, and had married the pious Mirabai, the famous poetess of Gujarat.

In 1469 Rana Kumbho was treacherously murdered by his own son, Udo; the parricide was induced to perpetrate the horrible deed by base motives of lofty ambition. He seized upon the *gadi* of Chitod for himself; but the unnatural wickedness of his conduct provoked widespread discontent amongst the nobles of the court, who looked upon his infamous deed with feelings of undisguised censure. Prince Raemal, another son of the deceased Rana, who, owing to his irascible temperament, had been driven into exile, was now called back, and all the courtiers joined in deposing the murderous Udo, and placing Raemal on the throne thus vacated by him (1474). Udo, thereupon, sought refuge at the Imperial Court of Delhi, and stooped to offer the hand of his own daughter in marriage to the Moslem Emperor, Bahlol Lodi, on his undertaking to send an expedition to Mewad and restore the *gadi* of Chitod to him. But how inscrutable are the ways of Providence! As if Nature herself came down to the rescue of Mewad, to spare her from such an infamy—for no Mewad princess has ever been wedded to an infidel—a flash of lightning struck the wretched father down to the ground, the moment he came out of the Imperial presence, and left him lifeless on the spot. During Raemal's regime, the Moslems of Malwa waged an interminable war with the Rana's men, and in the skirmishes both the hostile factions lost hundreds of brave and daring souls. Raemal had three sons—Sanga, Prithiraj and Jaymal. The life of Sanga was once attempted by his brother Prithiraj, who ran after him with a murderous weapon. Through the kind and timely intercession of their uncle Surajmal, Sanga escaped with his life. He, however, received five wounds on his body and his eye was pierced through by the pointed steel of an arrow.

Rana Raemal expired in 1509, and his eldest son, Sanga, was crowned as the next Rana. During his reign, the Moslem troops of Delhi and Malwa invaded the dominions of Mewad from time to time ; but they were warmly received on all occasions by the Rana, who confronted them at the head of an army, consisting of eighty thousand horse, seven feudatories, nine Rcos, one hundred and four Sirdars, enjoying the rank of Rawals, and five hundred elephants. The Mahomedans of Delhi and Malwa were beaten back with great loss on so many as eighteen occasions, and victory appeared as if chained to the standard of Sanga. On the 16th of March 1528, a great battle was fought on the plains of Biana, two miles from Kamwa, between the Mahomedans, led by Baber, the great founder of the Mughal Empire, and the Rajputs, who had joined the Rana's standard. At the outset the vigorous onslaught of the Rajputs, the Mahomedans could not withstand, and their ranks were effectively broken ; but internal jealousies and mutual animosities in the camp of the Rajput confederates worked their total ruin. Rai Sinh, a Rajput Sirdar of the Tuar family, proved faithless, and deserting the Rajput ranks, treacherously joined the army of Baber. The Moslems, thus reinforced, renewed the fight with fresh vigour, and Sanga, who fought with desperate courage, was at last forced to sound a retreat. During the engagement the Rana performed feats of valour, and seemed to court death by rushing into the thickest of the fight ; his body was entirely covered over with ghastly wounds, but he appeared to bear a charmed life, for wherever he went he succeeded in spreading carnage and confusion in the ranks of the enemy. But the day seemed to go against him and his own line of brave warriors was excessively thinned by the ceaseless slaughter. Rawal Udai Sinh of Dungarpur with his 200 brave Rajputs, Ratan Sinh of Salumbar with his 300 valiant Chandavats, Raemal, the prince of Marwad, Ramdas, the Rao of Songadh, Ujho, the Jhala chieftain, Gokaldas Parmar, and the Chauhan Sirdars, Manek Chand and Chundrabhan, with many other gallant Rajputs-the flower of the race-were amongst the slain. The Rana sought refuge in the neighbouring hills of Aravali, and there he solemnly swore never to enter Chitod, unless he gained a victory over the followers of Islam. But the pledge was not destined to be fulfilled ; the Rana's life was cut short by the hands of a vile miscreant, who administered poison to him, when he was encamped at Basava, in 1530. Sanga had passed his entire life on the plains of battle, and his whole body was covered over by scars of wounds received during the fight. His eye had been pierced through by the arrow of his brother, Prithiraj ; he had lost

one arm while fighting with the Lodi Emperor of Delhi, he was maimed by the loss of one leg which was shattered by a bullet ; and his limbs presented in all so many as eighty scars produced by sword-cuts, and by spears and javelins, that were thrust into his body.

The throne, rendered vacant by the death of Sanga, was next occupied by Prince Ratna. Like his heroic father, he also delighted in bivouacking on the open field and choosing the plains of battle for his capital. One remarkable trait in his character was that he had determined to fight the enemy, with the castle-gates of Chitod always open. Ratna lost his life in 1535, while fighting with Surajmal, the Rao of Bundi. Up to that time, not a single acre of Mewad's dominions was ever lost by Ratna or any of his predecessors.

Ratna was succeeded on the *gadi* of Chitod by his brother, Vikramajeet. The Rana was passionate, irascible and vindictive, and this embittered his relations with the nobles of the court, and estranged the hearts of his subjects. The weak monarch was once surprized by Bahadur Shah, the king of Gujarat, who, taking advantage of such a juncture, came up to Mewad by forced marches, and with a large army invaded the province. The Rana offered but poor resistance, and was driven out from his capital, and the city of Chitod fell into the hands of the victors. Shortly after, Humayun, the Mughal Emperor of Delhi, hastened to his succour, and driving Bahadur Shah away, restored the Rana to his *gadi* at Chitod. The Rana, however, gained no salutary lesson from these misfortunes. As before, he continued frequently to behave in a way, calculated to wound the feelings of his brave cavaliers and alienate their sympathies. The nobles, at last, took recourse to severe and hard measures, and with one accord they deposed the Rana. The wife of Rana Sanga had given birth to a posthumous son, by name Udai Singh, upon whom fell the choice of the nobility for succession. He was, however, quite an infant, and arrangements were made to place Vanveer on the throne, as the Regent, during the minority of the Rana. Vanveer was the natural son of Prithiraj, the brother of Sanga. When these court intrigues were going on at the capital, the murder of Vikramajeet, the dethroned Rana, was rumoured about the town. One source of probable danger was thus removed ; but the ambitious Vanveer still apprehended that, he would be deprived of the seals of office and would lose the control of State affairs on Udai Singh's attaining the age of majority. Brooding over such thoughts, the heartless Vanveer designed to

take the life of the young prince, who was then only six years old. Once while the young prince was confidently reposing in his cradle in the nursery, the wicked Vanveer set out for the palace, with a drawn sword in his hand, intent upon murdering him in cold blood. The faithful nurse, who attended upon her royal ward, on being apprised of the evil intentions of Vanveer, readily substituted her own child for the infant prince in the cradle; and stealing out from the palace before Vanveer approached, she succeeded in secretly effecting the removal of the young Udai Sinh from the castle to a distant place of security. Vanveer entered the palace and stabbed the nurse's child, mistaking him for the infant Rana. The devoted nurse carried Udai Sinh to the Rawal of Dungeerpur, who expressed his willingness to afford shelter to the scion of the Mewad house; but he dreaded the evil consequences that might follow the disclosure, and added that, if the intelligence of his harbouring them reached the ears of Vanveer, his fate would simply be disastrous. Thus discouraged, the heroic nurse thence conveyed the prince to Komulmer, where she placed him in the lap of one Asha Sha, the chief merchant and headman of the Jain community. She entreated him to take all possible care of her young charge and promised handsomely to repay in future all his present services; but the timid Asha Sha was by no means anxious to invite upon his head the dire consequences of Vanveer's displeasure. He was hesitating, when the merchant's mother soon set him right by reminding him of the dictates of their religion, which enjoined them ever to afford shelter to the distressed in their adversity. This appeal to the merchant's conscience had the desired effect, and the young Udaya was thus securely lodged in the house of the Jain, Asha Sha. A few days after, the Rao of Sonagadh happened to arrive at the house of the merchant, where his eyes fell upon Udai Sinh. From the physiognomy and the general demeanour of the boy, the Rao at once concluded that the lad could never have been a Jain by birth, but must have been born of a Kshatriya mother. The nurse had also conveyed to the Sirdars the intelligence of the young prince's safety at Komulmer; and the Rao at once recognised the boy to be no other than the young Rana Udai Sinh. All the courtiers of Chitod, thereupon, assembled at the place, and making the *teeka*, or the red mark of royalty, on his forehead, issued a proclamation, declaring Udai Sinh to be the crowned monarch of Mewad. When Vanveer learnt all this, he instantly commenced preparations to offer them stubborn resistance; but the nobles, at last, compelled him to leave the capital, whence he fled towards the Deccan.

Rana Uday Singh ascended the throne at the age of 11 in 1541. Advance in years, however, was not attended with a corresponding development of either martial or mental capacities in the new Rana, who proved eminently worthless for the exalted station to which he had been raised. In his reign, Akbar, the great Mughal Emperor of Delhi, led his army against the stronghold of Chitod, on two different occasions. In the first assault the Rana's concubine fought with masculine valour, and beat back the Mahomedan army with extraordinary courage. Akbar, however, was not to be put off with such a rebuff; he kept the field and soon resumed warlike operations against Mewad, at the head of his *corps d'elite*. His next attempt proved more successful. The Rana, in his embarrassment, like a veritable coward, thought of abandoning Chitod; but the gallant Rajputs presented a bold front to the Imperial troops, which cost them many a noble soul. The Rajputs closed their ranks, and with one accord resolved to die at their posts before yielding one inch of the ground under them. When the chief of Saloomber fell, the command of the Mewad army devolved on the youthful Futtah of Kelvada. Futtah was then only sixteen, yet his mother, fair as a goddess, exhorted him to put on the saffron robe and die in the cause of his country. When the gallant Futtah entered the lists, his young bride, too, armed with a lance, bore him company on the plains of battle. Alas! will this degenerate age of ours ever give birth to such chivalrous Rajputs, such patriotic mothers, and such faithful and devoted brides. The prospect is gloomy. Eight thousand youthful Rajputs, the flower of their race, clad in saffron vests, followed their young leader; the gates of the citadel were flung open, and the sturdy champions of the liberty of Mewad entered the field of battle. The contest grew fierce; the Rajputs were fighting with the courage of despair. Bards and *Chaurans* chaunted martial hymns of their ancient valour and sang warlike odes and ditties. Peals of war-cries and shouts of agony rent the firmament; the sound of kettle-drums, conch-shells and bugles filled the air; the swords of the brave flashed like lightning, and cries of 'Kill,' 'Strike,' reverberated from one end of the field to the other. Torrents of blood were surging round heaps of mangled corpses, and the field presented a weird appearance. The Rajputs were fighting at fearful odds; and as the popular adage goes:—'Two are more than a match for one,' they found themselves outnumbered by overwhelming odds. Their army numbered eight thousand only, while the Imperial troops consisted of countless numbers. The battle lasted long, but ultimately the Rajputs, who were merely a handful in number, made a reckless and desperate sally on the advance-guard

of the Mahomedans. They cut their way through the enemy's vanguard, but were slaughtered to a man. The carnage was terrible, and not a single Rajput escaped destruction. The hitherto virgin fortress of Chitod was taken by storm; the Mewadees lost the game, and Akbar effected his entry into the streets of Chitod, stained by pools of gore, on the 11th day of the bright-half of Chaitra, Samvat 1624 (1568. A.D.). The fortress, which had never yet witnessed the enemy's standard flying over its ramparts came into the hands of the great Akbar. That the lustre of Mewad may not be tarnished, nine queens, five princesses and two infant princes, with the families of all the deceased chieftains, perished in the flames lighted at the *palais-royal*. It is said that eight thousand Rajputs mowed down so many as thirty thousand Mahomedans of the imperial army; and that within the city walls no less than thirty thousand of the populace fell a victim to the vengeance of the infuriated Moslems.

Rana Uday Singh, after his cowardly flight from Chitod, sought shelter in the Rajppla hills of the Vindhya range. He, however, returned shortly after to his native land and remained concealed in the hills of Aravalli. It was at the foot of these heights, where the fugitive prince had taken up his abode, that the prosperous city of Udaipur was subsequently founded. Rana Uday Singh expired in 1572; he left behind him twenty-five sons, of whom prince Jagmal became the next Rana. This Prince was found lacking in qualities both of head and heart, and was wanting in valour as well as wisdom. The influential grandees, therefore, superseded him in favour of the chivalrous hero—Pratap—on whom their choice next fell. Pratap became the next Rana; but he had the semblance of royalty only and not its reality; for he had no kingdom to govern, no sinews of war, either in men or in money to support him: he was without a throne, without a capital. In every respect his condition, though he was a Prince, was deplorable. At the very outset he had to face the grim look of Adversity, such as would astound the stoutest heart; but the young Pratap, by no means daunted, courageously formed the noble determination of winning back for himself his ancestral estate of Chitod from the hands of the Moslems. He, with all his heart, set himself to the task of achieving what he had thus resolved upon in the pride of his youth. With the help of his trusted followers and the devoted chieftains, who remained steadfast to his cause, he established his capital at Komulmer, and strengthened several hill-forts round about the capital, and near Gangoda. Finding himself unable to cope with the enemy on the open plains, he invited his loyal subjects to these hilly regions and asked

them to make these their abodes. This afforded him facilities for plundering goods of European manufacture, that were often conveyed to the Mughal capital from Surat through the heart of Mewad. When this intelligence reached Akbar's ears, that monarch at once proceeded towards Ajmere, where he pitched his royal camp. Meanwhile two of Pratap's brothers, Sukta and another, defected from his side and went over to the Imperial camp. The Rajput chieftains of Jodhpur (Marwad), Jeypur (Amber) and Vikaner had already sworn fealty to the Mughal throne, and had purchased peace and tranquillity at the infamous price of giving their daughters' hand in marriage to the Great Mughal. Man Singh, the Prince of Amber, had become a great favourite of Akbar, who held him in high esteem. This circumstance, too, added considerably to the difficulties of Pratap, who found himself, alone and unaided by friends, thus singled out for the Emperor's vengeance. In 1576, Man Singh, while returning from a successful campaign, which he had led against Sholapur in the Deccan, was invited by Rana Pratap to his capital at Komulmer. The Rana, in a friendly way, went as far as Udaisagar to welcome his royal guest, for whom a rich banquet was ordered to be prepared at that place. Man Singh proceeded to the appointed place to partake of the Rana's hospitality, but on not finding the host at the table he asked Prince Amar Singh the cause of Pratap's absence. He was informed that the Rana was indisposed and was suffering from head-ache, and he was requested himself to do full justice to the dinner spread out before him. Man Singh was stung to the quick at this curt reply, and awakened to a sense of his indignity, replied in a tone burning with stifled anger—

“ Tell the Rana, I have divined the cause of his absence, I have also diagnosed his malady. Who, but a fool, would not? But the error once committed is past all correction, beyond all remedy. If the Rana will not partake of his meals on the same board with me, who else will?” Amar Singh's feelings of self-dignity were greatly heightened at this contrast, and he haughtily rejoined, that the Rana could never bring himself to sit on the same table with a degraded Rajput, who had polluted himself by giving the hand of his sister in marriage to a Turk. Man Singh, extremely chafed, resented the indignity thus offered to him by at once leaving the hall, without even so much as touching the dishes served out to him, and while departing, he observed in accents choked with rage, “ To preserve unsullied the honour of our Rajput name we have sacrificed our own by marrying our daughters and sisters to a Turk. Abide in peril, if such be your resolve, and see that you preserve your

own honour in tact, even in these dreary regions." At this moment the Rana hastened to the scene of dispute to remonstrate with the injured chief but Man Sinh, heedless of all persuasion and apology, mounted his horse and spurred away in full gallop, exclaiming, "My name will not be Man indeed, if I do not humble thy pride" !

Brooding over thoughts of vengeance, Man Sinh repaired to the Mughal capital and apprised the Emperor of the insult that had been hurled at his favourite. Akbar was exasperated beyond all endurance, and at once despatched a large army of Moslems, under the leadership of Prince Selim and Man Sinh, for the conquest of Mewad. To oppose this formidable array, Pratap mustered his twenty thousand strong Mewadees on the plains of Haldighat, at the base of the neck of the Aravalli. A fierce struggle ensued in the month of July, 1576, when the brave Rajputs, carried away with war-like frenzy, rushed into the enemy's lines like infuriated lions and made short work of the Moslems with great ease and alacrity. Their fury waxed terrible, and they repeatedly assaulted the special and trusted guards, who protected the persons of Prince Selim and Raja Man Sinh, and succeeded in putting these guards to the sword. Selim was seated on the back of an elephant ; at him a lance was hurled with unerring aim, but the Prince escaped uninjured, being shielded by his howdah, which was well defended on its sides by strong metal plates. In this contest the Moslems strained every nerve to defend the persons of their leaders Solim and Man Sinh, while the Rajputs with equal devotion and unflagging zeal rallied round the person of the heroic Pratap. The Rana in person fought with marvellous courage and seemed to court death by rushing into the thickest of the fight. Thrice he was badly wounded, and thrice did he escape destruction at the hands of the enemy. The fourth time, Pratap was on the point of falling when his devoted and faithful follower, Mana, the Jhala chief of Sadri, seized the royal insignia, and rearing the Rana's umbrella over his own head, rushed forward to meet the enemy, drawing after him the flower of the Rajput chivalry. He thus succeeded in warding off the danger from the head of Pratap, who being marked out by the royal parasol, was specially exposed to the enemy's wrath. The Rajput soldiers, also, mistook him for their leader Pratap, and fought with desperate valour, but were all mowed down like grass-blades at harvest time. Man Sinh, the Jhala chief, was amongst the slain. The death-roll too clearly, showed what a frightful havoc was created in the Rajput lines ; and the enormity of their loss could be adequately gauged, when it is remembered that out of twenty two

thousand Rajputs only eight thousand quitted the field alive ; the rest parted with their lives and with their blood shed a halo of lustre round the name of Mewad. Pratap, who rode his favourite steed-*Chetaka*, fled from the fight, unattended by any of his retinue. When he had galloped a long way off, he turned his face back and saw that he was closely followed by two Mughal generals, who were pursuing him at full speed. Of the two, one was his brother, *Sukta*, who had treacherously deserted him and joined the enemy's standard, and the other was a moslem chief. *Sukta*, now that he saw his heroic brother worsted and crestfallen, experienced strange emotions of family pride, brotherly affection and patriotism, swelling under his bosom, and overpowered by this sudden flush of his feelings, he called out his brother to stop and fear no more treachery at his hands. The two brothers met and were locked up in each other's loving embrace. *Chetaka*, the gallant grey, had received a mortal wound on the plains of battle, and of its effects it now fell down lifeless on the spot. *Sukta* relieved his brother from the imminent peril by lending him his own charger and made ample amends for his past perfidy by sending the Rana away in safety. He with his comrade then returned to the Mughal camp, and when asked by Prince *Selim* as to where he had left his steed, he first replied that it was killed in the fight ; but, when questioned again on the same point, he confessed without any reserve that as he saw his brother in great distress and with his horse killed, he had parted with his own to enable the Rana to fly in safety. *Selim*, who was struck by this reply, pardoned him this offence, but at the same instant discharged him from the Imperial troops. *Sukta* thence rejoined his brother's camp.

In 1577, the troops of *Selim* and *Raja Man Singh* invested the hill-fort of *Komulner*. *Pratap* and his brave chieftains offered a stubborn resistance to the besieging array, but this fresh attempt again cost them the lives of many a daring Rajput. *Man Singh* laid siege to the forts of *Dharmeti* and *Ganguda*. *Mohobat Khan* succeeded in carrying his arms into the very heart of the city of *Udaipur*. *Chand*, a young lieutenant under *Raja Man Singh*, once managed to come close to the person of *Pratap*, and was on the point of despatching the Rana with his sword and thus carrying out his evil purpose, when the blow so dexterously aimed was as effectively parried by the skilful *Pratap*. The Rana, however, was, by no means, disheartened by so many reverses of fortune which he bore with wonderful patience and fortitude. In each and every encounter *Pratap* never failed to take advantage of any opportunity that presented itself to him, and plunging like a lion into

the midst of his foes, he, wrought havoc amongst their ranks. Thereupon, Farid, a Moslem cavalier, swore, in the name of the Holy Prophet, to capture Pratap alive, or die by his own hand. A detachment of Mughals, under the command of Farid, was surprised by the Rana, who instantly put the whole party with Farid, to the sword. At the same time, he, with the help of his trusty followers, lost no opportunity of committing *raids* on the Emperor's territories, when at last Akbar got weary of this desultory warfare, and withdrew his forces from Mewad. The hand of Death had thinned the ranks of Pratap's trusted adherents, and this gradually became a source of no common anxiety to the brave Rana. The Bhils, residing in the neighbouring wilds, and who were also his subjects, were now the only people left with him, in whom he could safely confide; and they on their part proved not unworthy of the trust thus reposed in them. They courageously undertook to supply food and other necessaries to the Rana and his family and the few Rajput chiefs, who were still alive, and afford them shelter in their strong fastnesses. Emperor Akbar, who was much struck by the Rana's commendable fortitude and tenacity, has left on record a note applauding his valour, which runs thus: "What is not unstable and fleeting in this transient world? Riches have wings and territorial possessions change masters with every vicissitude of war. The merit of a great and good name alone survives decay. Rana Pratap sacrificed his kingdom and his wealth, but never bowed his head. Alone of all the Princes of Hind he preserved unsullied the honour of his race."

The Rana now suffered great many hardships in his mountain retreats, from want of food and money. Often he, with his family and faithful followers, had to live upon very miserable fare. Loaves prepared from the flour of wild grass-roots were the only means of their sustenance. Even these coarse bits of bread were very often snatched away from them by wild cats and other denizens of the forest; or they had sometimes to throw them aside and fly for their lives at the much dreaded approach of the enemy. The Rana was now reduced to such straits that he was overwhelmed by these formidable difficulties and privations; his heart began to fail him, and he thought of surrendering himself to the Emperor. Accordingly, he even wrote a letter to Akbar, owning his defeat, and asking for remission of the warfare. The Emperor exulted in this triumph, and he ordered a grand Darbar, for the purpose of reading this humiliating letter in the presence of the Rajput Chiefs, assembled at his Court. On this occasion Prithiraj, the younger brother of Raja Rae Sinh of Bikaner, was present at the Court, and was

stung to the quick at the sight of this decay of the last relic of Rajput liberty. Flushed by the pride of his race, he swore that the letter was by no means genuine, but was a spurious piece of forgery, and informed the Emperor that Pratap was not a man to bow his head to the Moslem even for his life. He further requested his Imperial master that, if so permitted, he would communicate with Pratap on the subject and ascertain the whole truth from him. Akbar granted this request; whereupon, Prithiraj* appealed to the Rana's noble sense of unbending patriotism with such earnest solicitude, and so passionately propped up his drooping spirits, that Pratap felt abashed at this sign of momentary weakness, and he at once changed his mind and resolved to die in the cause of his country.

Pratap had now determined never to submit the freedom of Mewad to the Emperor. At the same time he saw that the necessary means of subsistence and warfare would never be forthcoming from that part of the country, where it was no longer safe for him to stay, and he made up his mind to bid a last farewell to the land of his birth and migrate to some other neighbouring region. He took his family and the remnant of his brave and devoted clansmen to the other side of the Aravalli Hills and took up his abode near the Rann. At this juncture, Bhamasha his faithful minister, came to his relief with all his hoarded wealth, which he presented to his daring master, in the following suitable terms:—

“All the wealth, I have, is yours, my Lord! and I lay it all at your Royal feet. Cheer up my Liege, it is enough to provide maintenance to twenty-five thousand soldiers, for no less a period than twelve years.” The aid thus proffered was most opportune, and Pratap, at this noble display of loyalty and devotion, gathered all his wonted courage and retraced his steps towards his dear, old Mewad. In the first instance he invested the stronghold of Devada, which he carried by storm, slaughtering the Mahomedan garrison, which defended it. This victory was followed up by the seizure of Komulmer, and thirty-two other fortresses fell into his hands. The crowning event of this short struggle was the re-conquest of Chitod in 1590. The forts of Ajmere and Mandalgadh were soon reduced, and the whole of the Mewad territory was brought back under his yoke. Pratap again established his capital at Udaipur.

The year 1597 proved ill-starred to the destinies of Mewad; it saw the gallant, patriotic, brave and indomitable Pratap pass away from this sublunary world. When the last moments of his life had drawn near, he summoned

* For further details see chapter on Bikaner.

to his bedside all the nobles of the realm and thanked them for their earnest devotion and steadfast loyalty to the crown. He adjured them never to swerve from the cause of the freedom of their Father-land, and charged them not to lose heart in the midst of calamities ever so formidable. To the assembled grandees he said: — “ I know that my sons are worthless and the leading *Putanats* are discouraged by the gloomy prospect ; during my life I have succeeded in defending the land of our birth, with the help of your valour and skill, and with an amount of self-sacrifice, which involved my continued residence sometimes in huts and sometimes under shady trees. Now at the hour of my death, my soul will depart in peace only if you, all the peers of my realm, take a solemn pledge never to allow the very same dear land to pass into the hands of the infidels. Swear then, that you will abide by your pledge, and never forget to secure the independence of our land.” The assembled nobles then swore by the ancestral *gadi* of Bappa Rawal, that they would never allow large mansions or sumptuous palaces to be erected for dwelling, till the independence of Mewad had been completely re-established. There-upon Rana Pratap breathed his last, and his soul departed peaceably to rejoin its Creator.

: Of seventeen sons of Pratap, the eldest, Amar Singh, ascended the throne. The son was by no means worthy of his great father, and was immersed in a life of lordly luxury. In 1608 Emperor Jehangir, who had succeeded his father Akbar on the Imperial *Masnad*, sent for the Rana, calling upon him to accept Mughal Supremacy and be a vassal of the court of Delhi. All the Chieftains of the court, with one accord, urged the Rana to resent this insult and prepare for war, but the timid prince returned no answer to this their stirring appeal. Where-upon Chandavat, the Chief of Saloomber, sharply admonished the young ruler, and bade him remember the death-bed mandate of the departed Rana. When even this exhortation failed to rouse his spirits, Chandavat laid his hand on the person of Amar Singh, and dragged him from the throne to which he did no credit. He called out all the Chiefs to prepare for the ensuing contest and follow him to the field of war. The Sirdars with one voice supported Chandavat, and marched out in martial array to meet the Mughal forces. Rana Amar Singh now repented of his timidity and unmanly hesitation, and at the head of his own guards, he advanced forward to join his other Chiefs, who had gone before him. When the Rana was again in the presence of his chiefs he was visibly affected and his eyes seemed rolling in tears ; but at the same time, fondly

caressing his moustache, he asked them to forgive him for the indignity he had offered them, and promised to behave better in the future. At this, the gallant chiefs took compassion on the young Rana and restored him to his ancestral *gadi*. On the plains of Devar a battle was then fought between the Rajputs and the Mughals, under the leadership of a brother of the great Khan Khanan. In this engagement the Mughals were routed by the valour of the Rana's uncle, Sukta. Immediately after this, a truce was effected, and the Emperor entered into terms of agreement with the victorious Rana. But the treaty was more honoured in its breach than its observance. Two years later in 1610, a second battle was fought near Raupur, in which also the Mughals sustained a crushing defeat, and the Mewadees left the field with flying colours. These reverses, followed by a series of successful surprises upon the Imperial outposts, determined Jehangir to set up a new and independent Rana at Chitod, as a check upon the growing power of the Court of Udaipur. For this purpose, Sukta, the Rana's uncle, who of late, had come to wield great influence at the Emperor's Court, was sent at the head of a Mughal detachment to the fort of Chitod. Sukta, however, thought that by such a defection, created amongst them, the power of the Sessodiyas would be greatly impaired, their prestige would be lowered, and the fair fame of their fathers would be clouded with ignominy. Thereupon he handed over Chitod to the care of his nephew, Amar Singh, and returned to the court of Delhi. The Emperor upbraided him, and showered upon him such taunts and rebukes that the mortified Sukta thrust his dagger into his bosom and terminated his life in the very presence of the monarch and his courtiers. In 1611, Jehangir sent his son Perwiz, with a large army, against Mewad. His forces were joined in battle with the Rana's troops near Khanor, where the Mewadees dealt a crushing blow to the Imperial arms. During the retreat the army under Perwiz was inveigled in the adjacent mountain defiles, where the Mahomedans suffered a great loss of life. Again a fresh army was despatched under the command of the son of Perwiz, but it fared no better than its predecessor. It was completely put to rout by the valiant Mewadees, who thus were enabled to snatch successive victories from the Mughal arms. On the whole the Rana, during this struggle, gained decisive advantage over the Mughals. He fought with them no less than seventeen battles, in each of which his army claimed victory and thus did credit to the ancient glory of Mewad, though the contest cost him the lives of many of his noble feudatories and *yassals*. Jehangir, enraged at these reverses, now sent his son, Shah Jehan,

at the head of a formidable array against Mewad. In this strife the army of Amar Sinh was scattered by the Mughals, who thus vindicated the glory of their arms, which had been of late tarnished under the regime of Jehangir. The Mughals seized the persons of several Rajput Sardars and made their wives captives of war; upon which the Rana was much terrified, and informed Shah Jehan that he was anxious to come to terms with the Emperor, and that like other Rajput Princes he was also willing to swear fealty to the Mughal crown, and agreed to send his son, Prince Karan, to attend the Emperor's Court at Delhi. The Shah was so highly gratified at this submission of the proud Rana of Mewad, that he directed a Royal *Ferman* to be sent to the Rana, guaranteeing him and his descendants protection from the rulers of Delhi.

In 1621, Amar Sinh died, and was succeeded by his Son, Prince Karan. The new Rana was brave and intrepid, but finding no scope for the display of his valour, as peace reigned supreme throughout the whole country, he directed his energies towards strengthening the walls and strongholds in his territory. He also erected a new palace at the capital and named it *Ravala*. The Rana once extended his arms to Surat, which city he sacked and plundered. He died in 1627. Jagat Sinh mounted the throne after the death of Karan. It was in the same year that Shah Jehan ascended the Imperial *Masnad* at Delhi. On this occasion the new Emperor restored to the Rana five of the conquered districts, and presented him with a ruby of inestimable value. This Rana built a new palace, named after him '*Jaganevasa*', which was made wholly of white alabaster and marble. It was during his regime that the *Gonsais* set themselves up at Nathdwara and Kanakroli, where they raised sumptuous and superb temples in honour of their Deity—Krishna.

On the death of Jagat Sinh, Rana Raj Sinh succeeded him on the throne of Mewad in 1654. In the great civil war that ensued between the four sons of Shah Jehan for succession to the Mughal Crown, Rana Raj Sinh, with many other Rajput potentates, sided with the heir-apparent, Dara, the rightful claimant to the throne. Aurangzeb, however, through his perfidy, succeeded in tearing the diadem off the brow of his aged father. The Rajputs, who had sided with his elder brother Dara, refused to espouse the cause of the usurper, whose wrath they incurred. In 1658 the Rana threw off all allegiance to the Mughal Emperor, and began to direct in person all the affairs of his state, quite independent of

At this period Aurangzeb advanced at the head of his troops to Rupnagar in Marwad, with a view to demand in marriage the hand of the fair princess of that place. The chivalrous Rajputani was burning with the desire to save herself from the ignominy of such a union with an infidel, and she saw that Raj Singh alone had the prowess to be her Saviour. To the Rana she addressed an invitation to come to her relief. "A Moslem has come to marry me," she wrote, "I crave assistance of thee, Oh proudest of the Sessodiyas, and the best of the Rajputs ! True Rajput blood runs in thy veins alone ; if thou failest to come, who else will rescue a defenceless maid ? My hand, then, shall shed my blood, and the sin will be thine." In obedience to this call from the fair maid Raj Singh, at the head of the *elite* of his troops, bounced upon Rupnagar, put the Mahomedan guards to the sword, and bore off in triumph the Princess to Udaipur. Aurangzeb, writhing under this blow, felt much ashamed and fled to Delhi ; but smarting under a keen sense of the injury, he sent a large army, under the command of his sons, Princes Ajim and Akbar, to wreak dire vengeance upon Mewad. The Rana's troops under his eldest son, Jaya Singh, and the Dewan, Dayalsha, assisted by the whole Rathod army of Marwad, encountered them and beat back the two Princes with great loss.

Emperor Aurangzeb was much chafed at this insult, and though he did not choose then to march in person against the Rana, to chastise him for the abduction of the Bride of Rupnagar, he soon found out another occasion to measure his strength with his foe. Blinded through bigotry, he, in 1676 laid on all the infidels, (with which opprobrious epithet he preferred to style all his subjects, who dissented from the faith of Islam), the much hated impost of the *Jazia*, which had been redeemed by his predecessor the great Akbar. The intolerance thus exhibited by the Emperor, alienated the affections of all the Hindus whose religious susceptibilities were keenly affected by the ceaseless persecution to which they were subjected by the fanatical Moslem. The Rana of Udaipur naturally represented the Hindu community, and in the celebrated letter* of protest that he forwarded to the

Letter from Rana Raj Singh to Aurangzeb.

*" All due praise be rendered to the glory of the Almighty and the magnificence of your Majesty, which is conspicuous as the sun and moon. Although, I, your well-wisher, have separated myself from your sublime presence, I am nevertheless zealous in the performance of every bounden act of obedience and loyalty. My ardent wishes and strenuous services are employed to promote the property of the Kings, Nobles, Mirzas, Rajahs, and Boys, of the provinces of Hindustan, and the chiefs of Irana, Turan, Room, and Shawn, the inhabitants of the seven climates, and all persons travelling by land and by water. This my

Emperor, he only became a month-piece of the feelings of indignation generally entertained by the injured race. The letter breathed strong emotions as would do credit to a sensible and spirited young man, and we give it below as an indication of the nobility and the breadth of views of its sympathetic writer. The epistle, however, had not the desired effect ; it only added

inclination is notorious, nor can your royal wisdom entertain a doubt thereof. Reflecting therefore, on my former services, and your Majesty's condescension, I presume to solicit the royal attention to some circumstances, in which the public as well as private welfare is greatly interested.

I have been informed, that enormous sums have been dissipated in the prosecution of the designs formed against me, your well-wisher, and that you have ordered a tribute to be levied to satisfy the exigencies of your exhausted treasury.

May it please your Majesty, your royal ancestor, Mahomed Jelaul-ul-Deen Akbar, whose throne is now in heaven, conducted the affairs of this empire in equity and firm security for the space of fifty-two years, preserving every tribe of men in ease and happiness, whether they were followers of Jesus, or of Moses, of David, or Mahomed; were they Brahmins, were they of the sect of Dharians, which denies the eternity of matter, or of that which ascribes the existence of the world to chance, they all equally enjoyed his countenance and favour: inso-much that his people, in gratitude for the indiscriminate protection he afforded them, distinguished him by the appellation of *Juggut Gooroo* (Guardian of mankind).

His Majesty Mahomed Noor-ul-Deen Jehangheer, likewise, whose dwelling is now in paradise, extended for a period of twenty-two years, the shadow of his protection over the heads of his people; successful by a constant fidelity to his allies, and a vigorous exertion of his arm in business.

Nor less did the illustrious Shah Jehan, by a propitious reign of twenty-two years, acquire to himself immortal reputation, the glorious reward of clemency and virtue.

Such were the benevolent inclinations of your ancestors. Whilst they pursued these great and generous principles, wheresoever they directed their steps, conquest and prosperity went before them; and then they reduced many countries and fortresses to their obediencce. During your Majesty's reign, many have been alienated from the empire, and farther loss of territory must necessarily follow, since devastation and rapine now universally prevail without restraint. Your subjects are trampled under foot, and every province of your empire is impoverished; depopulation spreads, and difficulties accumulate. When indigence has reached the habitation of the sovereign and his princes, what can be the condition of the nobles? As to the soldiery, they are in murmurs; the merchants complaining, the Mahomedans discontented, the Hindoos destitute, and multitudes of people, wretched even to the wants of their nightly meal, are beating their heads throughout the day in rage and desperation.

How can the dignity of the sovereign be preserved, who employs his power in exacting heavy tributes from a people thus miserably reduced? At this juncture it is told from east to west, that the emperor of Hindostan, jealous of the poor Hindoo devotee, will exact a tribute from Brahmins, Sanorahs, Joghies, Berawghies, Sanyasees; that, regardless of the illustrious honour of his Timurian race, he condescends to exer-

fuel to the fire of the Emperor's wrath: and the appeal to his generosity failed. From every quarter of the Empire, he summoned his arms and calling his feudatories to his aid, he marched in person, with his sons, on the dominions of the Rajput Chieftain. The heroic Rana proved himself quite equal to the occasion and too clearly showed to his foe the mettle he was made of. The bravest of Aurangzeb's warriors with their veteran soldiers all priding over the sears and sword-cuts, with which their bodies bristled, as glorious trophies of the several victories they had achieved, flocked to his standard and surrounded the Rana's domains. To combat with them Raj Singh deemed as light as a child's sport. He adopted on this occasion, however, a stratagem, which speaks highly of his knowledge of military tactics, and making first of retreat, he succeeded in enticing Aurangzeb and his entire army into a narrow and unknown defile, where he pounced upon the bewildered Moslems as a lion would upon his prey. He crushed the proud array of the Emperor, whom he pursued into his own dominions and thus succeeded in transferring the scene of operations from Udaipur to the Imperial realms.

In 1681 Rana Raj Singh breathed his last, and his son Jaya Singh ascended the vacant throne. The new Rana entered into terms of alliance with Aurangzeb, and took to a life of pleasure and recreation, unmindful of the duties of his exalted position. He handed over the conduct of public affairs to his son, Prince Amur, and the chief minister, and himself retired

his power over the solitary inoffensive anchorite. If your Majesty places any faith in those books, by distinction called divine, you will there be instructed, that God is the God of all mankind, not the God of Mahomedans alone. The Pagan and the Mussulman are equal in his presence. Distinctions of colour are of his ordination. It is He who gives existence. In your temples, to his name the voice is raised in prayer; in a house of images, where the bell is shaken, still He is the object of adoration. To vilify the religion or customs of other men, is to set at naught the pleasure of the Almighty. When we deface a picture, we naturally incur the resentment of the painter; and justly has the poet said, 'presume not to arraign or scrutinise the various works of power divine.'

In fine, the tribute you demand from the Hindoos is repugnant to justice; it is equally foreign from good policy, as it must impoverish the country: moreover, it is an innovation and an infingement of the laws of Hindustan. But if zeal for your own religion hath induced you to determine upon this measure, the demand ought, by the rules of equity, to have been made first upon Runsing, who is esteemed the principal among the Hindoos. Then let your well-wisher be called upon, with whom you will have less difficulty to encounter; but to torment ants and flies is unworthy of an heroic or generous mind.

It is wonderful that the ministers of your government should have neglected to instruct your Majesty in the rules of rectitude and honour." *Tod's Rajasthan.*

ed from the capital, to enjoy at ease the sweets of life, far from its turmoil. After this on one occasion the Prince let loose a mad elephant in the very midst of the city, which wrought considerable damage to the people and their property. The minister upbraided him for this act of childish folly, but in spite of all remonstrance the Prince persisted in his mischievous pranks. The Rana, when apprised of this, repaired to the capital, but he was anticipated in his movements by his troublesome Prince, who fled to Bundi, the home of his mother, for succour. Amar returned from Bundi, accompanied by ten thousand Hadas, and waged war against his royal father. The Rana thought it quite unworthy of his dignity to measure strength with his own son, and sending a trusted messenger to conciliate him, he himself left Udaipur and proceeded in the direction of Godwada. The Rana's envoy in vain expostulated with the Prince, and asked him to disperse his troops, reminding him of the duty he owed to his father. Amar Singh marched to Komulmer with a view to seize the royal treasures deposited there; but he failed in his project, as the fort was well defended by strong guards. To put an end to this unnatural quarrel and bury all its unpleasantness into oblivion, the chieftains of Mewad assembled at the temple of Ekalinga—the tutelary deity of the Sessediyas; and there it was agreed that in future the Rana should stay at the capital, and that Amar, during the Rana's life-time, should live as an exile away from Udaipur. In accordance with this arrangement the Rana passed the rest of his days at the seat of his government, conducting the affairs of the state in person.

On the death of Jaya Singh in 1700, the throne of Mewad next descended to his son, Amar. After the death of Emperor Aurangzeb, when the war of succession broke out amongst his sons, the Rana secretly espoused the cause of Prince Shah Alam (Bahadur Shah), who subsequently rose to the throne. The new Rana enhanced the status of Mewad in the hierarchy of Rajput states, and contributed to the material prosperity of the state by introducing improvements in the various modes of cultivation and manufactures.

In 1716, Prince Sagram Singh was called to the throne of Mewad, on the death of his father Amar Singh. It was during his reign that the mighty Mughal Empire was completely dismembered, and out of the ruins of that colossal edifice numerous petty states rose up in its place. Those

Rajput states, which were already in existence, strengthened their power at the time of this collapse of the Empire. Mewad alone remained content with the preservation of the territories it had already conquered.

Rana Sagram Sinh expired in 1734, and was succeeded on the *gadi* by his son, Prince Jagat Sinh. The intervention of the Marathas in the affairs of Rajputana may be said to have commenced from this reign. In the year 1735 under the leadership of Bajirao Peshwa, a large army of Marathas invaded Mewad. Feelings of animosity and disunion prevailed amongst the Rana's Rajput feudatories, while the Marathas, like plundering marauders, made inroads upon the surrounding territories and laid them waste. The helpless Rana acknowledged the Maratha supremacy and agreed to pay them an annual tribute of 160,000 Rupees. The Marathas now became paramount, and the amount of the tribute was equally shared by the Peshwa, Sindhia, Holkar and Puar. At this period a war of succession broke out in the Jeypur state. Raja Jey Sinh expired in 1743, and his eldest son, Ishwar Sinh, seized the *gadi* after him. His claims to the ancestral throne were disputed by the other states in Rajputana, and quarrels arose, in consequence, between Jeypur, Bundi and Mewad. The Rana of Mewad supported the pretensions of his own nephew, Madhu Sinh, a rival claimant in opposition to the heir-apparent, Ishwar Sinh. The cause of Ishwar Sinh was espoused by the powerful Sindhia, where-upon the Rana sued Holkar for help. The Rana agreed to pay him 80 lacs of rupees, on condition of Holkar's dethroning their antagonist Ishwar Sinh. At this period Holkar was all powerful and was much dreaded by his foes. Ishwar Sinh feared that the co-operation of that Maratha chieftain would inevitably led to his own downfall, and thus driven to desperation, he determined to cut short his life. He swallowed a doze of poison and expired, thus clearing the way for Madhu Sinh to the *gadi* of Jeypur.

In 1752, died Rana Jagat Sinh, and he was succeeded by Rana Pratap II. The new Rana reigned only for three years and expired in 1755. The *gadi* of Mewad next descended to Rana Raj Sinh II. The inroads of predatory bands of Marathas on the territories of Mewad grew very frequent during this reign, and the Rana could not stop their work of spoliation. Raj Sinh died in 1762 and was succeeded on the *gadi* by his uncle Arsi. Internal dissensions amongst the Rajput states compelled the Rana to depend more and more upon Holkar for help. The ambitious Maratha was not slow to take advantage of these intestine feuds,

and on behalf of the Marathas, he levied the *chauth* from Mewad, for which, the Rana had to pay him sixty *lakhs* in cash. In 1770, Sindhia invaded Mewad and laid siege to its capital, Udaipur. The Rana stood in great need of money to induce Sindhia to raise the siege, and was, in consequence, compelled to mortgage a portion of his dominions as a security for the loan. He paid off Sindhia with the money thus raised, and the latter, thus, appeased, withdrew his army to his capital. Rana Arsi died in 1772, and was succeeded by his son, Hamir. He had a short-lived career before him, for he died in 1778, and his brother, Bhim Singh, became the next Rana. In 1802, a great battle was fought at Indore, in which the army of Sindhia vanquished Holkar's troops, and the victorious Sindhia began to look upon Mewad as his own tributary principality. Rana Bhim Singh had a very handsome daughter of the name of Krishna Kumari, whose superb beauty inspired flames of longing in the hearts of many ambitious suitors. Her hand was sought in marriage by two powerful rivals, the princes of Jaipur and Marwar. The handsome maid of Mewad became the apple of discord, and numerous Rajputs, from the courts of Jaipur and Jodhpur, the flower of their race, lost their lives in the contest that followed. Bhim Singh thought of putting an end to this slaughter by removing the very cause of their contention. The wretched father administered poison to his fair daughter, and the beautiful maiden was cut short in the very prime of her youth ; (1804). In 1811, Bapu Sindhia assumed the title of "Subehdar," and invading Mewad, laid waste the surrounding country. Several feudatory chiefs and vassals of note were made captives of war and imprisoned in the fort of Ajmére. The Rana, at last, grew tired of the unbearable misery and desolation, that attended every successive Maratha *raid*, and had no patience to brook, any longer, the oppression of the Pathan chiefs and the junior Thakores of Mewad, who held sway over a greater portion of the country. This, at last, induced the Rana, in 1818, to seek the alliance of the British Government and accept them as the Paramount Power in India. A treaty was accordingly concluded between both the powers at Delhi, on the 13th of January ; 1818. The Rana was represented by Thakore Ajit Singh, a member of his family, while the interests of the British East India Company were watched by Mr. Charles Theophyles Metcalfe, at the conference for the alliance. The chief stipulations of this offensive and defensive agreement were these: —

First article.— There shall be perpetual friendship, alliance, and unity of interest between the two States from generation to generation, and the friends and enemies of one shall be the friends and enemies of both.

Second article. — The British Government engages to protect the principality and territory of Udaipur.

Third article.—The Maharana of Udaipur will always act in subordinate co-operation with the British Government, and acknowledge its supremacy, and will not have any connection with other Chiefs or States.

Fourth article.— The Maharana of Udaipur will not enter into any negotiation with any Chief or State without the knowledge and sanction of the British Government ; but his usual amicable correspondence with friends and relations will continue.

Fifth article.— The Maharana of Udaipur will not commit aggressions upon any one ; and if by accident a dispute arise with any one, it shall be submitted to the arbitration and award of the British Government.

Sixth article.— One-fourth of the revenues of the actual territory of Udaipur shall be paid annually to the British Government as tribute for five years ; and after that term, three-eighths in perpetuity. The Maharana will not have any connection with any other power on account of tribute ; and if any one advance claims of that nature, the British Government. engages to reply to them.

Seventh article.— Whereas the Maharana represents that portions of dominions of Udaipur have fallen by improper means into the possession of others, and solicits the restitution of those places, the British Government, from a want of accurate information, is not able to enter into any positive engagement on this subject, but will always keep in view renovation of the prosperity of the State of Udaipur, and after ascertaining the nature of each case, will use its best exertions for the accomplishment of that object, on every occasion on which it may be proper to do so. Whatever places may thus be restored to the State of Udaipur by the aid of the British Government, three-eighths of their revenues shall be paid in perpetuity to the British Government.

Eighth article.—The troops of the State of Udaipur shall be furnished according to its means, at the requisition of the British Government.

Ninth article.—The Maharana of Udaipur shall always be absolute ruler of his own country, and the British Jurisdiction shall not be introduced into that principality.

The treaty, which embodied the provisions above set forth, put an effectual stop to the incursions of Sindhia and other predatory chiefs upon the dominions of Mewad. The rude shock, which the advancement and prosperity of the country had received from these wars of spoliation and plunder, necessitated the appointment, by the British Government, of an Agent, who was to take up the affairs of Udaipur in his own hands, for a time, and evolve order out of the chaos reigning in Mewad. The choice of the Government fell upon Colonel Tod, the famous annalist of Rajputana, who instantly assumed the charge of the British Agent. The fiscal reforms, which he introduced in the State, were so thoroughly sound and effective that the revenue of Mewad was doubled within a short period of three years. After that period the administration of the State was again entrusted to a native Sirdar, but during the two years of his ministry, the State was again plunged into heavy debts, and the tribute of the British Government remained unpaid and ran into arrears. Complaints about the mismanagement of the State were spread far and wide, which led to the re-appointment of the British Agent at the head of the administration. The Agent succeeded in again putting the wheels in the right track, and the whole political machinery worked satisfactorily under his control. The whole country, in consequence, prospered under his administration. In 1826, the management of affairs was again placed in the hands of a native Council of Regency, consisting of several *Patavat* chiefs. Within a few months, however, fresh signs of mismanagement began to appear, and anarchy reigned supreme in the country. All the former oppression and extravagance were revived and marked the new administration. The revenues of the State sank as low as they were in 1818. All this, however, was nothing when compared with the rapine and blood-shed, which became the order of the day throughout the whole country. The general insecurity of person and property prevailing there, was so great that the traveller and the merchant found it quite unsafe to pass through the land. The internal trade of the country was, in consequence, seriously crippled.

Rana Bhim Sinh died in 1828, and was succeeded by his son, Prince Juwan Sinh. Affairs did not mend much during his reign, and there were no prospects of any improvement. The Rana was himself licentious and extravagant to a fault, and his prodigality rapidly consumed the treasures of the State. The annual income steadily went down, while the state liabilities were daily augmented. Even the tribute, due to the British Government, fell into

arrears. All these circumstances combined to plunge the Rana into embarrassment. The Rana was distinctly given to understand that, in case he failed to pay the tribute regularly, portion of his territory would be confiscated, and the outstanding balance would be realised from the revenues thus sequestered. At this juncture, however, the Rana expired in 1838. Sardar Sinh, an adopted son of the late Rana, ascended the throne. He was by nature a proud and conceited tyrant, and by his oppressive demeanour, estranged the sympathies of all the leading *Patavats* of his Court. He died in 1842, after a short rule of four years. His younger brother, Sarup Sinh, succeeded him on the *gadi* of Mewad. It was in his reign that the British Government graciously remitted a sum of two *lakhs* from the annual tribute, the Rana had to pay, from the month of June 1846. The leading *Patavats* and courtiers, amongst whom a deep-rooted spirit of discontent was smouldering since the time of his predecessors, now broke out into open revolt against the new Rana. The Rana was engaged in the task of suppressing them for several years, till, at last, in 1861, the British Government interceded and settled the points at issue between the Chief and his vassals. Peace was thus restored in the province at the instance of the British Government.

Sarup Sinh died in 1861, leaving no male issue behind him. Shambhu Sinh, his nephew, was there-upon installed on the *gadi*. The new Rana was scarcely seventeen, at this time; during his minority, therefore, the administration was conducted by a Council of Regency, consisting of the chief Sirdars, under the immediate supervision of the Political Agent. The members of the Council began to manage their affairs very perfunctorily, which evoked complaints from one end of the country to the other. Justice was sold to the rich and refused to the poor. Persons found guilty of heinous crimes like murder were acquitted without remorse, at the whims of these councillors, who even went to the length of opposing the wishes of the Political Agent. When matters were thus brought to a dead-lock, two courses seemed open to remedy the evil; one was to change entirely the *personnel* of the Council of Regency; while the other was to abolish the Council, and entrust the administration of the State to some better qualified and more competent hand. It was, at last, agreed that one of the Sirdars was to be appointed the President, and two others, to be members under him; these three, forming a new Council, were to carry on the administration, under the direct eye of the British Agent. This arrangement was soon put into force, and it worked with such eminent success and harmony that the coffers of the

State, which for years had been completely drained, were again replenished. On the 17th of November, 1865, Shambhu Singh was entrusted with the reins of Government, and on that occasion no less than thirty *lakhs* of rupees—a result of prudence and thrift, were handed over to him. He proved a very capable and efficient ruler. He cultivated friendship with the British Government, and strengthened the ties of attachment between him and his feudatory chiefs by amicably settling the points of difference which had subsisted for a long duration. The tact and wisdom with which he carried on the administration of the State, won for him the regard and esteem of his subjects as well as the British Government. The Imperial Power was pleased to grant him a *Sanad* of adoption, and to decorate him with the title of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India. The Rana was, however, cut off in the very prime of his life at the tender age of twenty-seven, in 1874. He left behind him no male issue. Sajjan Singh, a member of the same family, was consequently adopted and installed on the *gadi*. At the time of his accession, the Rana was a minor, and the administration was entrusted to the British Agent at the head of the Regency Council. At this period, the Rana's uncle, Sohan Singh, who ruled at Valad, disputed the Rana's claims to the *gadi* and put forth his own right as preferable to his nephew's. He sought to substantiate his right by force of arms, and openly raised the standard of revolt. He was subsequently arrested, and being convicted of the offence of waging war against the Rana, was exiled and kept a prisoner at Benares.

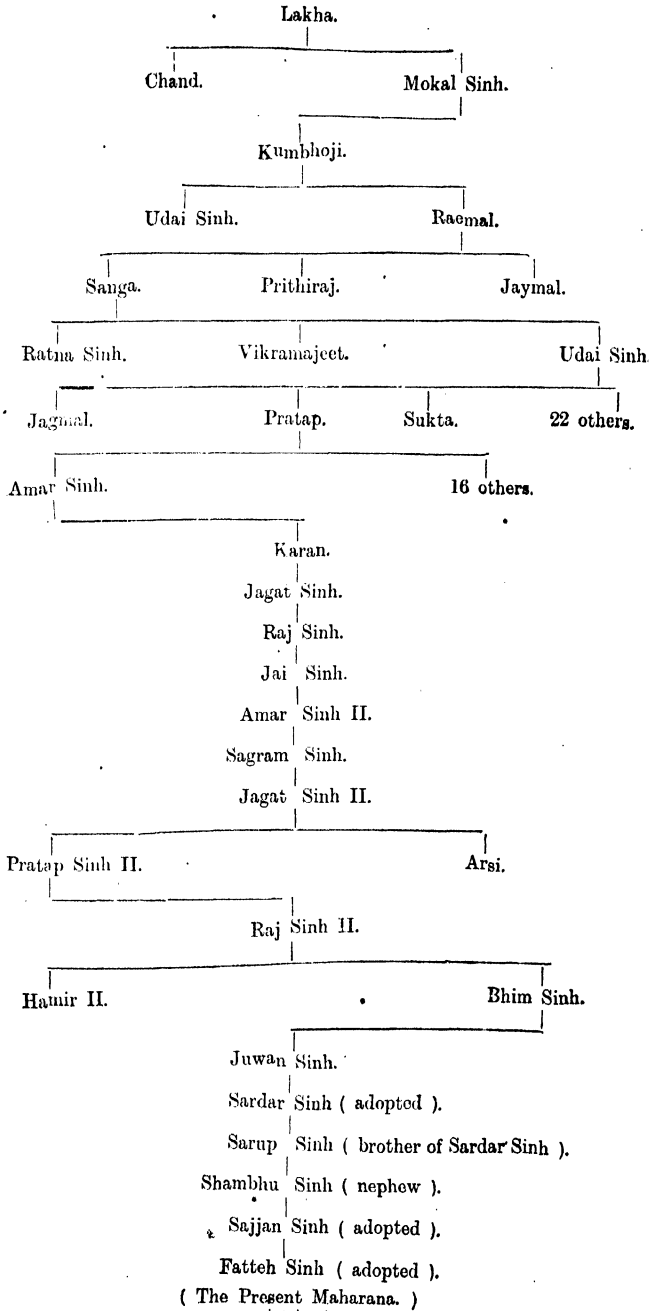
Maharana Sajjan Singh was present at Bombay to pay his respects to H. R. H. The Prince of Wales, when he landed on the Indian shores, on the 8th November, 1875. In the Grand Darbar held in honour of the Native Princes, His Royal Highness treated him with great respect and also did him the honour of a return visit, during the course of which both the Royal Princes exhibited signs of mutual friendship and cordiality. Subsequently, in 1876, when Lord Northbrook, the Governor-General and Viceroy of India, paid a visit to the Maharana's capital, he was received with great *eclat* and genuine hospitality. At this time, Gir-dharji, the spiritual head of the Vaishnava sect at Nathadwara, raised his head against the temporal authority of the Maharana, who had therefore to depose him and banish him from his territories. His *gadi* was next given to Govardhanji. During his rule, Land Settlement and Irrigation Departments were established on a very good footing. The Rana was then engaged in suppressing the revolts that were raised from

time to time by the Bhils and the Jat cultivators of Mewad. The Maharana also attended the Imperial Assemblage, held at Delhi, by H. E. Lord Lytton, the Governor-General and Viceroy of India, on the 1st of January, 1877, in honour of the assumption of the title of the "Empress of India", by Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. At this assemblage the salute of 19 guns, to which Maharana Sajjan Singh was hitherto entitled, was enhanced to 21 guns.

On the midnight of the 23rd of December, 1883, Maharana Sujjan Singh fell a victim to the dire effects of fever, and was cut off in the very flower of his youth, at the tender age of twenty-six. He left behind him no progeny. On the morning of the 24th, his body was cremated with great honour, and in accordance with all the rites and ceremonies prescribed by the *Vedas* and the other Hindu *Dharma Shastras*. In the afternoon on the same day, all the principal *Patavats* assembled in the Royal Palace and there resolved that Prince Fattah Singh of Shivarati, a near relation of the late Rana, should be taken in adoption by the Queen-Dowager. The British Government set the seal of approval on this choice, and Fattah Singh was accordingly installed on the throne of Mewad. Maharana Fattah Singh is now 37 years old and enjoys full criminal and civil powers in his State, and is empowered to pass capital sentence on offenders guilty of murder and other grave crimes. His Highness the Maharana of Udaipur is entitled to a salute of 21 guns.

Genealogical tree.

Bappa, Guhit, Bhoj, Shil *alias* Aparajit, Kala Bhoja, Bhartari Bhatt, Agh Singh, Samhayak, Khuman, Nar Wahan, Shakti Kumar, Nar Warma, Kirti Warma, Bairad, Vair Singh, Vijaya Singh, Ari Singh, Chand Singh, Vikram Singh, Khem Singh, Samat Singh, Kuman Singh, Mathan Singh, Padam Singh, Jai Singh, Tej Singh, Samar Singh, Karan, Rahapa, Narpati, Dinkar, Yush Karan, Nag Pal, Puran Pal, Prithvi Pal, Bhun Singh, Bhaumya Singh, Jay Singh, Lakhamsi, Ajay Singh, Hamir, Khetsi and—



Residence.—Udaipur, Mewad agency, Rajputana ; Western India.

TRAVANCORE.

TRAVANCORE.

Area.—6,730 sq. miles. Population.—2,555,074.

Revenue.—78,48,000 rupees.

This principality is bounded on the north by the Native State of Cochin; on the east by the British Districts of Madura and Tinneveli; and on the south and west by the Indian Ocean.

The rulers of Travancore are *Kshatriyas* of the Dasavansi branch of the Patam race and its ancient throne is renowned in history as the *gadi* of Ramraja. It is said that the celebrated saint Parasuram reclaimed these regions from the sea and peopled them by a colony of aboriginal Brahmins, known as Namburis. They invited the ruling class, *Kshatriyas* to dominate over them and the Government of the Rajputs, which exists upto the present day, may be said to have dated from that period. It has always been carried on after the rules and modes prescribed by the ancient law and usages of the Hindus and has never yielded to the arms of the Mahomedan or other foreign powers.

Nothing further is known of the ancient History of Travancore than the bore out lines mentioned above; and the trust-worthy records, that have come down to us, date from the year, 1456. The law, governing the succession to the throne, differs materially from that obtaining in other native states. It is not the eldest son that succeeds his deceased father to the throne nor is he classed even among his heirs. In the generality of cases, the brother of the deceased Monarch succeeds him and in the absence of a brother, the nephew (sister's son) ascends the throne. In the event of there being no sister's son, the daughter's son inherits the *gadi*. Even daughters sometimes wear the crown and hold the sceptre in their hands. In 1740, the numerous, feudatory chiefs flew into open rebellion against the ruling power and the Sovereign of Travancore; a Rani called to her aid one of her relations, Mastanda Vurma, to put down the rising. She handed over to him the sole administration and it is from that date that the accurate history of the province has come down to our hands. Raja Mastanda Vurma, by the help of the troops raised under De Lanoy, a Flemish officer, vanquished, in 1758, the insurgent chiefs and evolved order out of chaos in the State. Raja Mastanda Vurma died in 1758, and was succeeded by Vanji Bala Perumal. He enlarged the army under the command of the above-named European officer and put down

the other Sirdars, who had raised their head against the central authority. Haidar Ali, the commander of a detachment of the Mysore army, dethroned its Hindu Monarch, and usurped the throne in the year, 1761. Raja Vanji Bala Perumal granted a free passage to the British troops marching against the French partisans of Haidar at Mahi in the year, 1772. He also manfully resisted the temptations held out to him by Tipu, the son of Haidar, to espouse his cause against the English with whom he was waging a deadly war. On the field of Pani, in 1788, the chief of Travancore lent his support to the British troops, and it was mainly through his assistance that Tipu was defeated in the engagement. The British Government, in recognition of the signal services thus rendered by the chief, agreed, in 1789, to protect the interests of Travancore against all foreign aggression.

Tipu Sultan conquered the districts of Malabar and Kanara, and next directed his attention towards that portion of the principality of Travancore, which lay between these two districts. The English, at the head of a large and well-disciplined army, offered him a strong resistance which completely frustrated his scheme. He, however, conquered all the territories lying on the borders of Travancore, and ruled over the people inhabiting those parts with an iron hand. He also threatened the chief of Travancore with war-like preparations. The Hindu potentate applied, in 1788, to the Madras Government to lend him the services of a few English officers to train and discipline his troops. He also desired to engage permanently in the army, thus disciplined, four English officers of high rank and 12 (Sergeants). The Government replied that the British officers could not be spared to serve in an alien army, and his overtures were, accordingly, rejected. It was, however, conceded that if the chief of Travancore could not safely carry on his Government without the help of English arms, a British contingent might be placed there at the expense of the State. The chief consented to pay 1750 Pagodas, i. e. Rs 7000, every month, towards the maintenance of this force. It was, at length, resolved that the chief of Travancore should employ two British battalions in his service.

While the British army was proceeding to Travancore in accordance with the terms of the above mentioned agreement, a tribe of high class Hindus, inhabiting Mysore, known by the name of Nayers, took refuge in these realms, flying from the oppression of Tipu, who resorted to all conceivable modes of tyranny to convert them from their dearly cherished faith to Islamism. Tipu made preparations to march upon Travancore and

completely overthrow the Hindu rule. Its ruler had also afforded the Muslim another pretext for carrying his arms against him. The Chief had recently purchased from the Dutch Government two fortresses built by them on the out-skirts of Travancore. He had further constructed round them a strong wall, 30 miles long, on the precincts of Mysore and Travancore, extending from the Anamli hills to the sea. Tipu, at the head of a large army, encamped in the neighbourhood of this wall, in December, 1789, and attempted to storm these fortresses. He failed in his manoeuvres and subsequently shifting his camp, he retired by a secret passage to one of the adjoining hills, and tried to effect an entry into the heart of Travancore. While marching onward, he was obstructed by a detachment of the king's troops ; but he succeeded in demolishing a portion of the wall, and forced his passage to the place, where his mighty host had, all the while, lain encamped. One of the king's regiments had taken up its stand in a small turret in the wall, from which the soldiers so effectively discharged their shots that Tipu and his men were obliged to fly in confusion. The Mussalmans rushed head-long in the breach made by them in the wall. The men, in the front, remained stationed in the holes dug by them, while those in the rear, not knowing of these pit-holes, continued pushing onward. The Sultan too had a hair-breadth escape. Many of the sepoys fell into the pits and were drowned, while some groaned piteously for help, unable to bear the excruciating pain to which they were exposed. When the Sultan approached these holes, his faithful followers safely conveyed him across them over the heads of the soldiers, who had fallen into them. Tipu felt chagrined at the innumerable hardships encountered by him and his brave comrades, and made a firm resolve not to budge an inch from the ground he had till then occupied, until a sufficient number of guns were ordered out from Shrirang Pattan, and the wall stormed and levelled to the ground. Tipu had undertaken this expedition against his neighbour without any justifying or palliating cause. The fact that the Hindu Chief was a sworn ally of the English, and that he had assisted them in the war recently waged by him with the Foreigners, always weighed heavily upon his heart, and it was with a view to avenge these wrongs that he had led his troops against his Hindu compatriot. The English, too, in return for the past services of their ally, sent a large army to his support under the command of General Meadows. The Peshwa and the Nizam were also summoned to assist them with their forces. Lord Cornwallis, the Governor-General, was in favour of adopting conciliatory measures and he preferred the

conclusion of a peace to the declaration of a war. Tipu misinterpreted the designs of the British Viceroy, and under a fancied security that the English were afraid of him, he, in May, 1790, marched against Travancore, and completely demolished the hitherto impregnable wall. He made a triumphant entry into the heart of the territory, and perpetrated deeds of unheard cruelty on the unfortunate ryots. He conquered Travancore and wreaked a deadly vengeance upon the king and his subjects. When he heard that the English were making preparations to fly to the succour of their partisan, he returned to his capital Shrirang Pattan, and raised a large army to oppose the arms of the English. The English first opened the campaign by reducing a stronghold of Tipu near Koimbtur. Tipu marched against them, but was defeated and repulsed. The territories of Travancore, recently conquered by Tipu, were soon recovered and restored to the Maharaja.

The chief of Travancore, under the terms of the treaty concluded in 1793, had agreed to hand over to the English the annual yield of pepper growing within his dominions in exchange for the broad-cloth, arms, and other articles of English manufacture to be provided by the Government of Bombay. The Raja by a subsequent agreement consented to employ an extra regiment of the British army in his service. Vanji Bala Perumal died in the year, 1799, and was succeeded by Raja Ram Varma Perumal. A few days after his accession, he entered into fresh stipulations with the British power. The Raja agreed to pay an increased sum every year to meet the expenses of the enhanced troops, and the management of affairs was entrusted to British officers to enable them to keep a vigilant eye over the subordinate officials, and to frequently advise the Maharaja in the conduct of the Government. The English, in return, were to receive every year a fifth share of the State revenues together with two *lakhs* of rupees in hard cash. The English had become the masters of the situation which excited the jealousy of the Native Dewan and his subordinates. They gradually fanned a spirit of discontent and disobedience among the subject population and nearly 30,000 people rose in arms at their bidding. They began to contest every inch of ground with the English, whom they defeated in every encounter. They then marched in a body and attacked the Bungalow of the British Resident. Some of the English soldiers landed in mistake at the port of Alpai, where they were drowned in the sea with heavy stones tied round their necks. They also endeavoured to win over the Raja of Cochin to, their side, but in a battle fought on the 15th of January, 1809, the insurgents were routed and their leader, the Dewan, was obliged

to fly for his life. In the month of February, the English troops captured several of the fortresses, and the recalcitrant Dewan, who was flying in the adjacent woods, committed suicide in one of the Hindu temples. The Maharaja at last concluded a fresh treaty with the English, and the brother of the Dewan, who had drowned thirty-four soldiers in the sea near Alpai, was ordered to be hanged just opposite the place where the regiment, to which the unfortunate soldiers belonged, lay encamped. The English Government at last perceived that the Prince was not strong enough to efficiently carry on the Government, nor was he surrounded with able and trustworthy advisers, and assuming the sole administration of the State, they appointed a British Resident. Thus was Travancore, then an independent State, reduced to the position of a subordinate *Raj* owing allegiance to the British Crown.

Within a few days of this change Raja Ram Varma Perumal died in the year, 1811. His sister, Laxmi Rani, occupied the throne till the time that she was delivered of a son. During this period the reins of Government were retained in the hands of the British officials. Under them the old laws, which assigned higher punishments to minor offences and lighter to those of a graver kind, were modified in keeping with the advanced age, and new laws promulgated, whereby punishments varied directly with the gravity of the offence. Justice began to be equitably administered both to the rich and the poor.

Laxmi Rani gave birth to a son, on 18th April, 1813, who was named Vatami Rama Varma. He was duly installed on the Travancore throne, his mother retaining the powers of the Queen-Regent. Next year Laxmi Rani gave birth to another son, but dying immediately after, her sister Parvati Bai was appointed Regent in her place. The Resident handed over the sole administration to this lady in the year, 1814. She conducted the Government with marked ability until 1829, when the young Vatami Rama Varma was invested with Supreme Authority on his attaining the age of 16 years.

Raja Vatami Rama Varma died in the year, 1846, and was succeeded by his brother Mastanda. He reigned in peace for fourteen years, and expired in the year, 1860. He was succeeded by his daughter's son, Vomi Bala Rama Varma, who reigned till 1880. He was after his death succeeded by his brother, Raja Rama Varma, who was then 43 years old. He was born in the year,

1837. During the time that he was heir-apparent to the throne, he had placed himself under the tuition of the illustrious statesman, Sir. T. Madhav Rao, and had received liberal education in English and Vernacular at his hands. He rose to the position of one of the ablest chiefs in the country. While giving evidence before the Education Commission appointed under the Presidency of Sir. W. W. Hunter, the Maharaja expressed his liberal views on the most important question of female education. He, also in his speech on the occasion of his installation, had given public utterance to the broad and statesman-like views on the art of governing which unmistakeably indicated the high qualities of both head and heart with which he was endowed. He, in short, proved a model ruler. He introduced important reforms in the Revenue, Judicial, Educational, Police, Medical, Postal, and Municipal departments of the Administration, and opened several works of charity. His subjects enjoyed the sweets of plenty and prosperity, and with one voice prayed for his long life and happiness. Cruel fate, however, willed it otherwise. He was snatched away by the wicked hand of Death in the prime of his life at the age of 48 years, on the 5th of August, 1885. The whole State was plunged into profound grief. After suffering from dropsy for a month, he fell a victim to that dread disease. He was cremated at mid-night with great solemnity and the funeral *cortege* consisted of the leading nobles and other gentry in the State, who walked with their heads uncovered in honour of the dead. A special salute of 48 guns was fired from the Royal Battery and all the public institutions and markets throughout the State were closed for three consecutive days. Maharaja Rama Varma was succeeded by his nephew (sister's son) Bala Rama Varma, the present ruler of Travancore. He received the title of a Knight Grand Commander of the Star of India in 1888. The Maharaja enjoys full civil and criminal powers, and is entitled to a salute of 19 guns.

TRAVANCORE.

Genealogical tree.

Mastanda Varma.

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Vanji. Bala Perumal.

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Rama Varma Perumal.

|

Vatami Rama Varma.

|

Mustanda.

|

Bala Rama Varma.

|

Rama Varma.

|

Bala Rama Varma II.

(The Present Maharaja).

Residence.—Trivandrum, Southern India.



JAIPUR.

Area.—14,527 sq. miles. Population.—2,825,695.

Revenue.—61,00,000 rupees.

The Native State of Jaipur is bounded on the north by Alwar and the out-lying districts of Delhi; on the north-east by Bharatpur; on the south-east by Kirauli; on the south by the territories of Sindhia, and the native states of Kota, Bundi and Tonk; on the west by Kishangadh and Marwad; and on the north-west by Shekhawati, a small principality owning allegiance to Jaipur. This federation is likewise bounded on the north by the Zillah of Lahora in the Panjab; on the west by the native state of Bikaner; and on the south-west by Marwad. It is under the direct management and control of the British Government.

The Maharaja of Jaipur is descended from a family of great antiquity and renown. He belongs to the Surya vanshi (Solar) Kachhwaha tribe of the Rajput race. Hindu chroniclers have described Ajodhya (Oudh) to be the oldest of all the native states in India. As mentioned in the foregoing pages of this work, while narrating the annals of Mewad, the celebrated Rama was the Lord of Ajodhya. His favourite consort, Sita, was forcibly carried away by Ravan, the demon king of Lanka. This led to an invasion of his dominions in which Ravan was killed, his capital sacked and Sita restored to her pining lord, and carried back to Ajodhya. The Ranas of Mewad trace their descent from Lava the elder son of Rama, while his younger son Kusha became the stock of the family of the rulers of Jaipur. He had a son named Kurma or Kachhwaha who became the eponym of Kachhwaha tribe of Rajputs. In the line of Kurma or Kachhwaha, there flourished, several degrees removed from him, the renowned Raja Nala, who ruled over Naishadha* in the third century of the Christian era. He founded the city of Narwar, and made it his principal seat of Government. Dhola Rae, thirty-fourth in descent from Nala, was the last king of Narwar.

In the middle of the tenth century, the Yavanas advanced in large numbers and invested the capital of Narwar. The siege lasted long, which rendered the surrounding country desolate. Many of the brave Rajputs lost

* There are reasons to infer that Naishadha must be the ancient name for all those territories lying to the south of Malwa, east of Khandesh, the province of Berar, and the north-western portion of Nagpur. The ancient city of Narwar is situated at a distance of a few miles from Ujjein, in Malwa. Nala was the husband of the far-famed Damayanti.

their lives in deadly skirmishes with the invading foe. At last the small but the valiant band of the surviving garrison boldly determined to put on the saffron robe, rush head-long on the enemy, and immortalize the name of the whole Kachhwaha tribe. Before carrying out this desperate project, they erected large funeral pyres within the walls of the fortress, and consigned to flames, their wives, daughters and other things dear to them, in order to prevent them from falling into profane hands of the infidels. When nothing remained of what was once the dearest of this their worldly concern but a heap of ashes, the veteran Rajputs performed their ablution in honour of the dead, and put on the saffron robes, flung open the gates, and with drawn sabres rushed furiously upon the ranks of the enemy. The strife grew fierce and destructive; sounds of kettle-drums, horns and pipes filled the air; the contending armies met pell-mell; and nothing but the cries of 'kill,' 'strike,' fell upon the ear; and to such a pitch were their spirits excited that they began to ply their swords at random, knowing neither friend nor foe. During the heat of the battle, the bards and the Charans fed the flame of their fury by vigorously chanting soul-stirring hymns of ancient Rajput gallantry and chivalry. Dhola Rae was conspicuous at the head of the charge with his sword in hand. The Rajputs perished to a man, and Dhola Rae, covered over with innumerable wounds and drenched in his own blood, succeeded in effecting his escape with a view to avert the greater disgrace and calamity of falling into the hands of the enraged enemy. The carnage was terrible; all the brave Rajputs and the majority of the besiegers lay dead on the field. Blood flowed in torrents and the battle-field presented a ghastly scene of indiscriminate slaughter. The Yavans entered the deserted city, and plundered it to their heart's content. The Hindus, that fell into their grasp, were made prisoners, and carried as slaves to the land of the victors. The whole country was desolated and depopulated. Dhola Rae, abandoning his paternal estate of Naishadha, went to a place where the modern Amber stands. He erected the fortress of Amber in 957, and assuming the title of the 'Prince of Dhemdur,' began to rule there as an independent sovereign. He subsequently conquered a greater part of the adjoining districts, and incorporated it with his dominions. The territories, that he thus seized, had formed part of the appanage of the Mina Rajput feudatories of the Hindu Sovereign of Delhi. They began to harass the usurper by frequently attacking his dominions. Dhola Rae was married to the daughter of the Chauhan prince of Ajmere. Although he and his followers had only recently settled in that part of the country

he obtained the support of the Chauhan prince, with whom he was connected by ties of matrimony, and succeeded not only in subduing the Rajputs and Mina chiefs, but also in consolidating his newly conquered region of Amber. The whole life of Dhola Rae was spent on the field of battle, and it was in a scuffle that he lost his life. At the time of his death, his Ajmere Queen was big with child, and she in course of time, gave birth to a son, named Kankal.

During the non-age of Kankal, the government of Amber was conducted by his mother as Queen Regent. Kankal was, after his death, succeeded by Medal Rae. He was a brave warrior, who fought several battles, and like his grand-father, departed his life in a deadly contest with his enemies. He was succeeded by Hun Dev, who dying soon after, was succeeded by Kuntal. The Minas, who had taken to outlawry in the reign of Dhola Rae, though subdued and cowed down, were not yet brought under proper control, and Kuntal dealt with them so severely, and trampled them down so completely, that they were permanently incapacitated from ever rearing their heads against the ruling authority. Panjoon ascended the throne after the demise of Kuntal. He was married to the sister of Prithvi Raja Chauhan, the last of the Rajput Kings of Delhi. He espoused the cause of his kinsman in the struggle that ensued between him and Shahab-ud-Din Ghori for the Indian Empire. On several occasions the Ghori chief had to fly before his veteran antagonist. Shahab-ud-Din was once vanquished in an encounter, which took place near the Khyber Pass on the out-skirts of the regions of Delhi, and the triumphant Rajput pursued the Ghori chief to the very gates of Gazni. Prithvi Raja made him Governor of Chandel (now called Bundel Khand), conquered mainly through the prowess of Panjoon and his brave followers. Mahoba was then the capital of Chandel, and Parmal was the ruling sovereign. Prithvi Raja invaded Mahoba, and a fierce struggle ensued, in which Parmal lost five chiefs, 12,000 men and thirty elephants. Prithvi Raja, on the other hand, sustained a loss of 50 Rajputs, 100 horses and five elephants. Though Prithvi Raja, had not to mourn the loss of his commanders, he had yet to anxiously watch the recovery of Panjoon, the gallant chief of Amber, who bore the brunt of the whole contest. While rushing to a place where the fight was the thickest, he received sabre-cuts and lance-thrusts, and fell senseless on the field. He was rescued by his gallant comrades, who revived him by sprinkling cold water over his face. Again assuming the command, he

forth-with led his invincible band against the enemy. The contest grew fiercer than ever. The brave Rajputs, on both sides, seemed inspired with a strange belief that death on the battle-field opened for them the portals of Paradise, and immortalized their names in the nether world. Like desperadoes, they fought with all their might and main. Heads of sturdy soldiers rolled on the plain, like ears of corn, before the mowing scythe. Blood flowed in streams, and human corpses were found floating upon them. The piteous screams and yells of the wounded, the flashing and clashing of the deadly weapons, and the spirited cries of the fighting Rajputs, pervaded the whole atmosphere. During this bloody battle no less than 5,000 men on Prithvi Raja's side, and as many as 20,000, on the side of the lord of Chandel, were swept away at a single stroke. Prithvi Raja, who had received several wounds, was found lying unconscious on a heap of dead bodies, whence he was rescued by his favourite Chand Baroat and soon restored to consciousness. Parmal, the chief of Chandel, who had taken shelter in the hill-fort of Kalinjar, was at last arrested by his pursuers and brought to the presence of Prithvi Raja. When an estimate was formed by Chamund Rae and Chand of the losses sustained by Prithvi Raja on the fatal field, it appeared that Sanjam Rae had ascended the heaven while fighting the enemy, and eleven warriors including Panjoon, Kayabhasha, Kanha, and Jet had fallen unconscious on the field. They were revived by Ramguru and Chand Baroat, who sprinkled charmed water over their faces, reciting some mysterious incantations. Parmal was, subsequently, released on payment of a heavy ransom, and Panjoon Kachhwaha was stationed at Mahoba, as the governor of the conquered province. Panjoon was one of those sixty-four chiefs who assisted Prithvi Raja Chauhan in carrying away Samyukta, the daughter of Jayachanda, the Rathod prince of Kanouj. In an encounter with the Rathods, while carrying away the fair prize, Panjoon lost his life.

After the demise of Panjoon, the throne of Amber was successively occupied by Malesi, Bijal, Raja Dev, Kitan, Kuntal, Junsī, Udekarān, Narsinh, Vanveer, Udharan, Chandrasen, and Prithvi Raja. The last of these had 17 sons, 12 of whom reached man's estate, each becoming the stock of a separate branch of Kachhwaha family. Prithvi Raja was not a prince of very great distinction, and was treacherously murdered by his own son, Bhīm. It is said of Bhīm that he had the countenance of a demon. Prithvi Raja left behind him six sons, Bihari Mal, Puran, Rup Sinh, Ash Karan, Bhīm and Jagmal. The eldest of these, Bihari Mal, ascended the *gadi*. It was during his reign that the Mahomedan rulers directed their attention

towards establishing their supremacy over the Rajput princes. Bihari Mal did not at first acknowledge their sway, and openly defying their authority, offered them a strong resistance. It was after repeated attacks on Amber, and constant annoyance to his subjects, that he paid allegiance to Emperor Babar, and gave his grand-daughter in marriage to Prince Humayun. It was on this occasion that Bihari Mal was ennobled by the Emperor with the title of the Maharaja of Amber. It is also narrated that in the latter part of the year 1561, when Emperor Akbar set out on a pilgrimage to the Mausoleum of Kutub Olia, Bihari Mal repaired to Ajmere, and accorded the Emperor a brilliant reception. Akbar enlisted him on the roll of his leading courtiers, and himself married his fair daughter. The Emperor also bestowed upon his sons, Bhagwan Das, Jagannath, Bhupat and Salhadi, high ranks in the Imperial army. Bihari Mal was, after his death, succeeded by his eldest son, Bhagwan Das. He strengthened the ties of relationship already existing between the Mughal Sovereigns and the house of Amber, by giving his daughter in marriage to Prince Salim (Jehangir), the eldest son of Emperor Akbar. The chief of Amber, thence-forward, became the most influential personage at the Imperial Court, though at the cost of his reputation and honour among men of his own kith and kin. They began to traduce the Amber Chief as the first to bring pollution to the whole Rajput race by marrying his daughter to scions of the Mughal blood. But the temptation of forming such high connections with the Imperial House was too strong to be resisted by others for a long time, and the chiefs of Marwad and Bikaner followed his example, by bestowing the hands of their daughters on princes of the Imperial household.

Bhagwan Das, having no male issue, had adopted his nephew, Man Sinh, as his own son and heir. In 1572, the sons of Sher Khan Fudali marched towards Idar at the head of their troops, and the Emperor despatched Man Sinh, the prince of Amber, to oppose their progress. The heroic Rajput not only put them to flight, but plundered their rich treasure and returned to Delhi with the booty. Raja Bhagwan Das and his son Man Sinh were ordered to march against Husain Mirjan, who had already taken possession of Surat; but before they reached that place, they were recalled by the Emperor, on his receiving the intelligence of the base murder of his partisan, Rustom Ali Khan Rumi, by Ibrahim Mirjan at Broach. The assassin fled towards the north, and with a view to chastise him, the Emperor followed him in person, attended by his faithful vassals, Bhagwan Das and Man Sinh. They reached the banks of the river Mahiudri, and were informed that Ibrahim had taken shelter in the village

of Sarnal on the opposite side. Man Sinh crossed the river at the head of only a hundred horsemen, and Ibrahim Mirjan followed by 1000 cavalry, came out to meet him. The heroic Man Sinh, not daunted by the fearful odds against him, cheerfully and valiantly joined battle with the opponents. The Emperor then forded the river at the head of his army, and took possession of Sarnal. On entering the village, the Emperor found that the enemy had gone out to oppose Man Sinh, and he at once ordered his men to run to his rescue. The Mirjan's cavalry presented an unassailable front, and beat back the invading army. Bhupat, the brother of Raja Bhagwan Das, fought like a demon, but fell in the scuffle. The brave followers of Mirjan, flushed with the victory gained over such powerful antagonists, fought with renewed vigour. They made a sudden onslaught on the enemy's advance-guard, and the Mughal army found itself shut up in a narrow defile. There were thick hedges of thorns and brambles on both sides of the pass, which rendered it so narrow as not to allow even three horse-men to ride abreast. The Grand Monarch and his lieutenant, Bhagwan Das, rushed to the front, where they were assailed by three horse-men from the opposite camp. One of them was wounded by Bhagwan Das and the other two were put to flight by the Emperor. The Mughal host, seeing their Monarch and his favourite in such imminent peril, rushed to their rescue, and the followers of Ibrahim Mirjan were speedily put to the rout. Akbar presented Raja Bhagwan Das, with a flag and a drum (Nobut), in recognition of his gallantry and awarded him the full honours of the day.

Within six months of this victory, a tumult broke out in Gujarat, and Raja Bhagwan Das and Rae Sinh of Bikaner were ordered to march against the insurgents. They had not proceeded far, when they were joined by the Emperor in person, attended by a small body of the royal guards. The Mughal army, on reaching its place of destination, was ordered to attack the belligerents, arrayed under the leadership of Mahomed Husain Mirjan. The scuffle took place on the banks of the Sabarmati, near Ahmedabad. Mahomed Husain Mirjan showed extraordinary valour in resisting for a time, the onslaught of the Imperial troops, but as he could not hold out long against such fearful odds, he soon made his escape from the field. One Gada Aly, a horseman of the Royal guards, soon overtook him, and brought him to the presence of the Emperor. He was consigned to the custody of Rae Sinh of Bikaner. During this fight the insurgents lost no less than 2,000 of their number. The exasperated Rajput solkiery, under the com-

mand of Rae Sinh, soon put to death the arch rebel, Mahomed Husain Mirjan, and his head was sent to Agra to be hung on one of the city-gates.†

After the defeat of the insurgents at Ahmedabad, Bhagwan Das marched direct towards Idar. Rao Narandas, the reigning chief, having sustained a signal defeat at the hands of the Imperial troops, in 1573, fled and took refuge in the neighbouring hills. Bhagwan Das took possession of Idar, and proceeding further captured the town of Vadnagar.

Man Sinh exercised the greatest influence at the Imperial Court; as he was related to the Emperor, one of his aunts being wedded to Shah Humayun. In addition to that, he occupied the exalted position of the Emperor's brother-in-law, his own sister having been given in marriage to the Grand Monarch, Akbar. The Emperor had raised him to the highest post by creating him the generalissimo of the Imperial army, a place fraught with uncommon danger and responsibility. In that capacity, he earned the world-wide reputation of being the greatest of all the generals who helped Akbar in extending and consolidating the Empire of that illustrious Mughal potentate. Of all the victories and conquests which signalised the glorious reign of Akbar, no less than half were won by the prowess of our Rajput hero, Man Sinh. It was he, who conquered all the territories extending from Khotan to the sea. It was to his invincible arms that Orissa had yielded, and he it was, who reduced the chief of Assam, to the subordinate position of a mere tributary. To Raja Man Sinh must be awarded the credit of conquering Bengal, Behar, the Deccan and Kabul.

While Man Sinh was returning from the Deccan, after a successful expedition against Sholapur, he happened to pass by Komulmer, the then capital of the Rana of Mewad. Pratap Sinh, as a mark of hospitality, invited him to his Metropolis, and went as far as Udai Sagar to welcome the distinguished guest. A grand banquet was ordered to be prepared at the place, where the two Rajput chiefs met. When the feast was laid out, Man Sinh arrived there, but not finding the Rana, he asked his son, Amar Sinh, the cause of the Rana's absence. The prince replied that he was desired by his royal father to tell him that he would not be able to attend, as he was slightly indisposed. The pretext was too transparent for Man Sinh to see through, and he at once exclaimed 'Go! and tell Ranaji, I can divine the cause of his head-ache. The error is past all correction. Who else will

† It is said that after this victory Emperor Akbar passed some days at Ahmedabad in the palace in Bhadra.

sit to dinner on the same board with me, if Ranaji does not?' Whereupon, the youthful Amar Sinh retorted 'Ranaji will never dine with one who has given his daughter in marriage to a Moslem, and who might perchance have taken his meals with the polluted.' The brave Man Sinh was stung to the quick, and angrily left the place without eating a single morsel. While leaving, he roared out, 'We have sacrificed our honour and reputation by giving our daughters and sisters in marriage to the members of the Mughal Royalty, with the sole purpose of preserving in tact the traditional glory of the Rajput race endangered by the aggrandizement of the all powerful Mussalmans. Abide in peril, if such be your resolve, for this country shall not hold you.' Pratap instantly hastened to the spot, but Man Sinh rode away saying, 'I am not Man if I do not humble your pride'. Akbar, too, when he learnt this, was exceedingly enraged. In the rainy season of 1576, a large expedition was led against Mewad, the command of the Mughal army being entrusted to Prince Salim, Man Sinh remaining at the head of his gallant Rajput soldiery. Rana Pratap had already taken his post in the defiles of Haldi Ghat, at the head of 22,000 soldiers, the very cream of Rajput chivalry, and was anxiously watching the approach of the invading army. The Rana's position was naturally fortified by large hills that surrounded his camp on all sides. Pratap had posted detachments of armed Rajputs in the plains, while on the adjacent mountains, there were Mewad Bhils, with bows and arrows, ready to shower their javelins on the approaching invaders. The position of the Rana seemed to the enemy unassailable. The Mussalmans were exhorted to fight with their traditional valour, and the contest was carried on with unabated fury on both sides. The Rajputs and Moslems vied with each other in exhibiting their valour. The Mewadis tried their utmost to apprehend Man Sinh, the bone of contention, but they were baffled by the skill of their opponents. The Mughals grew desperate in protecting the person of their leaders, Salim and Man, while the Mewad militia were equally vigilant in guarding their beloved monarch, the brave Pratap. Thousands of brave soldiers fell on the field, and the carnage grew terrible. Of the 22,000 brave Rajputs on the Rana's side, only 8000 survived the struggle. Pratap, seeing that the day was irretrievably lost, fled from the field of battle. Man Sinh and Salim, elated with victory, arrived at Ajmere, enroute to Delhi.

In the winter of 1577 the struggle was resumed, ending in the defeat of Rana Pratap at the hands of Man, who reduced to submission the impregnable fort of Komulmer. The forts of Dharmeti and Gogunda, too,

were besieged and captured. The insult offered to Man thus cost the Rana his throne, and reduced him to a very miserable plight. But for the loyalty and devotion of Bhamasha, his Bania minister, who lent the Rana loans of *crores* of rupees, Pratap would never have been able to raise an army sufficiently strong to regain his lost territories. To avenge the many injuries done him by Man, the Rana marched upon Amber, in 1586, and plundered Malpura, the greatest commercial emporium of the State.

A fortification was erected on the frontiers, which was named by Emperor Akbar 'Attock Benares'. It was from that station that the Grand Monarch made preparations to march upon Kabul, and ordered Man Sinh and his brother, Madhu Sinh, to capture Peshawar. The Hindus were enjoined by the Shastras (or their holy Scriptures) not to proceed beyond Attock ; but Man Sinh disregarded the injunction, and uttering the following couplet marched forward:—

The whole earth is Lord's creation,
What need of Attock thereon;
He alone stops short and retires,
Who feels compunction in his heart.

These celebrated lines of Man Sinh are sung throughout the country, even at the present day. He eventually conquered Peshawar. Maharaja Bhagwan Das, too, was present on that memorable occasion. Akbar conquered the Panjab with the help of Bhagwan Das and Man Sinh. The former of these was appointed Viceroy of the conquered province. He had taken up his residence at Lahore, where he expired in the year 1589.

The sad news of Bhagwan Das' death reached Akbar when he was at Kabul. Prince Man Sinh was also there with the Emperor. Maharaja Bhagwan Das was endowed with rare wisdom, valour and probity. He was the most favourite companion of the Emperor, and his demise caused him intense grief. The Maharaja had received from his liege-lord the proud title of Amir-ul-Umrah. It is said that on one occasion Bhagwan Dashad saved the life of the Emperor, jeopardising his own personal safety.

Akbar despatched Man Sinh from Kabul to take possession of his hereditary throne at Amber. He arrived there, and was crowned Lord of Amber. The Emperor sent him a superb dress of investiture, and a richly caparisoned horse. The vicerealty of the Panjab, that had fallen vacant on the death

of Bhagwan Das, was conferred on Bhan Sinh, the son of Man Sinh. Man Sinh received in addition the viceroyalties of Bengal and Behar. The brave Rajput defeated, in a fierce battle, the son of Katlu Afghan, and conquered from him the district of Orissa. Once while Man Sinh was at Amber, he received tidings of a revolt in the province of Bengal, and proceeding thither, he promptly put it down. The sister of Man Sinh, who was married to Prince Salim, and who had borne him one son, Khushru, disgusted with the foul intrigues and differences between her husband and son for succession, swallowed poison, and thus terminated her life. She was Jehangir's most favourite consort, and her violent death caused him immense grief, which made him peevish and distracted.

In 1605, when the great Emperor Akbar was drawing his last breath, a conspiracy of the most insidious type was being hatched at the court to set aside the rightful heir, Salim, and place his son, Khushru, on the Imperial *Masnad*. The arch-conspirator was Man Sinh, the maternal uncle of Khushru, who was the most influential and powerful personage throughout the Empire. All necessary arrangements were made to secure the throne for Kushru; but their plans were, all of a sudden, frustrated by Emperor Akbar, who with his own hands presented the sword of royalty to Prince Salim.

Raja ManSinh held the highest and most responsible place in the Empire till the date of Akbar's death (1605). He was Governor of Bengal, where he died in the year 1615. He was succeeded on the Amber throne by his son, Bhan Sinh. He in his turn was succeeded by Moha, after whose demise the throne of Amber was given to Jai Sinh, the nephew of ManSinh, at the instance of Jodh Bai, the Rajput Queen of Emperor Jehangir.

Jai Sinh was brave, skilful and a patron of letters. He is more familiarly known in the annals of the Rajasthan (Native States of India) by the title of 'Mirjan Raja'. During the most critical period in Jehangir's reign, when his sons rose against him, with a view to dethrone him, Jai Sinh was the foremost of those Hindu chiefs who espoused the Emperor's cause. Jehangir died in 1627, and was succeeded by ShahJehan. During his illness, a fatal discord arose among his sons for succession, and almost all the Rajput chiefs took part in the struggle, joining the forces of the heir-apparent, Dara. Jai Sinh marched with his army to stop the progress of Suja, who was the Governor of Bengal, and who was proceeding, at the head of his troops, from that province to take possession of the Imperial throne. In the same manner the onward march of Aurangzeb, the Governor of

the Deccan, was checked by another Rajput prince, Jaswant Sinhji of Marwad. With uncommon strategic skill Aurangzeb succeeded in reaching Agra, and deposing his aged sire, Shah Jehan, he ascended the *masnad*, in the year 1658, and ruthlessly murdered all his brothers. Aurangzeb felt the greatest resentment towards Jaswant Sinh of Marwad, who had offered him a strong resistance, while proceeding from the Deccan to the capital. The Emperor was, however, soon reconciled with the Rajput Chief, through the good offices of Jai Sinh of Amber.

Shivaji had, by this time, unfurled his standard of war in the Deccan, and foiling all the attempts of the Mahomedan hosts, had well-nigh declared independence. Aurangzeb at last sent Jaswant Sinh of Marwad against the Maratha upstart. Moved by a common impulse of religious and patriotic feeling, Jaswant Sinh, instead of subduing Shivaji, supported him in his noble enterprise of rearing a powerful Hindu sovereignty in the Deccan. When the Emperor came to learn this, he, without showing any signs of resentment, recalled Jaswant Sinh from the Deccan, and sent Jai Sinh in his stead. That brave Rajput prevailed upon Shivaji not to fight against him, but submit himself to the Mughal sway. He further exhorted him to accompany him to Delhi. The Raja guaranteed him his personal safety ; but when after reaching the capital, he saw that Aurangzeb was bent upon getting rid of the Maratha hero, he assisted him in effecting his escape from his place of confinement.

In 1680, Prince Akbar II., the son of Aurangzeb, rose against him ; and in the struggle enlisted the sympathy of the Rajput Rajas. Bearing this in mind, Aurangzeb sent his troops against Jaipur, Mewad, and Marwad, plundered their territories and massacred the poor, innocent subjects. The Rajput Rajas, forming themselves into a strong coalition, plundered all those districts in Malwa, which owned allegiance to the Imperial throne. They laid waste rich tracts of soil, demolished and defiled sacred mosques, burnt the holy Koran and other religious tracts and relics that came within their grasp, and thus offered outrageous insult to the faith of the Islam. Jai Sinh of Amber was the leader of these insurgent Rajput chiefs. Besides this he had always supported Shivaji against the Mughal Emperor, and the latter began to devise schemes to treacherously get rid of his formidable antagonist. Aurangzeb promised the crown of Amber to Kirti Sinh, the younger son of Jai Sinh, in case he undertook to basely murder his revered father. The

temptation proved too strong, and Kirti Sinh, mixing poison with the opium draught, administered it to his father, while he was engaged in a war in the Deccan, and thus removed the most capable man from the arena of Indian politics, at a very critical juncture in the history of the country. Kirti Sinh, soon after the perpetration of this perfidious deed, repaired to the Emperor to ask for the promised reward, but the crafty Monarch, resenting his unfilial conduct, granted him only one district, while the throne was given to his elder brother, Ram Sinh. Nothing note-worthy is recorded to have occurred during the reigns of Ram Sinh, and his successor, Bishen Sinh. The last of these dying in 1699, his son, Jai Sinh, better known as 'Savai Jai Sinh', ascended the Amber *gadi*. In 1707, passed away the last of the great Mughal Emperors, Aurangzeb, and a quarrel arose among his sons for succession. Muazim, assuming the name of Bahadur Shah, ascended the Imperial *Masnad*. He invaded Amber and Marwad, and subjugating them both, posted his own garrison in those places. He then proceeded towards the Deccan, carrying with him the chiefs of Amber, and Marwad as captives of war. Hardly had the Mughal sovereign reached the banks of the Narbada, when these two Rajput chiefs contrived to escape from the Imperial army. They both went to Udaipur and took refuge with Rana Amar Sinh. The Rana accorded them a cordial reception, and the combined armies of the three princes first marched upon Marwad. They took possession of Jodhpur, and driving away the Mughal officer, Ajit Sinh assumed reins of the government. They spent the monsoon in Marwad and then proceeding to Amber, laid siege to the capital of Maharaja Jai Sinh. The Mughal Governor, Sayyid, offered them a strong resistance, but in the scuffle he was killed, and Amber was once more restored to its rightful sovereign. Though reinstated on their paternal thrones, the Rajas of Marwad and Amber were at daggers drawn with the Emperor, with whom they were finally reconciled in the year, 1710.

The once glorious Mughal throne was occupied by Bahadur Shah till 1712, by Jahandar Shah till 1713, and by Farukhshiyar till 1719. During the reign of the last named monarch, Jai Sinh, who was on intimate terms with the Emperor, remained during the greater portion of the year at Delhi. Ajit Sinh of Marwad and the Saiyyid brothers headed the opposition formed at the Court against the *effete* successors of such powerful Emperors as Akbar and Aurangzeb. These persons once entered the palace, and plundering the state treasury, deposed the weak and effeminate prince, and

declared Mahomed, the Emperor of Delhi. Raja Jai Sinh, displeased with the pusillanimity of the Mughal sovereign, quitted the court and went to Amber; and the Saiyyid brothers, finding him opposed to the accession of Mahomed Shah, led a large army against his capital. Before the Mughal army could reach Amber, the Rajput Chief sent envoys to the Imperial Court, and through the intervention of Rana Ajit Sinh of Marwad, who had become the factotum at the Imperial Court, reconciliation was soon effected between the two contending powers. In 1730, the Marwad throne was occupied by Abhe Sinh. Jai Sinh and the Marwad Monarch met at Ajmere, where they conjointly settled their line of operations, which brought on the final overthrow of the now moribund Mughal Empire.

Jai Sinh II. was one of the few wise sovereigns who ruled in India. He was highly proficient in mechanics, mathematics, chemistry and other branches of Science. He was in no way inferior to the Western Astronomers of the day. He wrote a masterly treatise on the elements of Geometry and translated into Hindi several works on Trigonometry and other kindred subjects. In 1720, he built a new city, and naming it Jaipur, made it his capital. This new city stands even to-day unsurpassed in its broad well constructed roads, colonnade of symmetrical buildings and beauty of general architecture. Savai Jai Sinh removed his seat of government from Amber to Jaipur. He constructed observatories at Delhi, Benares and Jaipur, and carried on astronomical researches on the Asiatic system. The results were so accurate that even European savants were astounded at the close agreement between the observations made at these places, and those made at the Western centres. He also performed several chemical experiments. He erected at various places within his dominions, Dharma Shalas (caravansaries) for travellers of every caste and creed. With all this to engage his attention, it must be said to his credit, that he figured prominently in every engagement fought during his reign, a reign characterized by constant quarrels and warfare with neighbours and foreigners. During his regime, Jaipur attained the very zenith of its prosperity. As long as he espoused the cause of the then tottering Mughal Empire, he was able to keep it erect; but when he found that Farukhshiyar was but a weak and timid ruler, he withdrew to his capital, and devoted his leisure hours to the study of his favourite subjects of History and Astronomy. In 1720, Mahomed Shah conferred on him the Viceroyalties of Agra and Malwa. During his tenure of office, he erected Scientific institutions in those

provinces, also, which were finished by the end of the year, 1728. He it was who persuaded the bigoted Emperor, Aurangzeb, to abolish the levy of *Jazia*† (capitation tax) on the Hindus. He was reappointed to the Viceroyalty of Malwa by Mahomed Shah, in 1732. While the mighty Mughal Empire was lying prostrate on its death bed, the Rajput Rajas were engaged in protecting their territories against the attacks and plunders of the Maratha free-booters, and the Mussalman Governors, assuming independence, appropriated to themselves the territories entrusted to their care. In 1734, the Shah was advised to reside for a time in Malwa. Raja Jai Sinh was credited by the Emperor with full powers to open negotiations with Baji Rao Peshwa, and a treaty was concluded between the Mughal and the Maratha sovereigns in 1736. This put a stop to the Marathas' onward progress towards Delhi. At the time of the great invasion of India by Nadir Shah in 1738, Raja Jai Sinh, fully acquainted with the resources of the Empire, with rare foresight, advised Mahomed Shah to avoid an engagement with the invader, observing that there was not a shade of hope of obtaining victory over the war-like bands of the Persian Conqueror.

Jai Sinh II. died in 1743, after a memorable reign of 44 years. He had built his own domains over the ruins of the Mughal Empire. He annexed Devti and Ragu to his territories. With all his skill, talent and valour, Jai Sinh was vainglorious and addicted to drinking, though in purity of character he stood inferior to none of his race. Not only do bardic legends raise him to the seventh sky, but historical accounts, too, speak none the less highly of this excellent prince. In scientific knowledge he stands pre-eminent among all the native chiefs of India.

† Alla-ud-Din Khilji (1295-1315) asked his *kazi* (spiritual preceptor) as to what amount of *Jazia* tax should be levied from the Hindus. To this the *kazi* replied 'according to the mandates of Imam Hanifa the Kaffirs (Hindus) should be burdened with taxation as much as possible in return of the very fact that they are allowed to live in peace and security. The *Jazia* and the land-tax should be fixed at such a high rate that their payment would be but death to them'. Upto the time of Emperor Firoze Shah (1351-1388) the Brahmans were exempted from the payment of these taxes. The *Jazia* tax was classified into three main divisions, i. e. 40, 20 and 10 per cent. per head. The Brahmans were subsequently included in this last class. The collection of this tax was attended with great hardships during the regime of the Lodhi rulers (1450-1526). It was totally abolished by the beneficent Akbar. It was reimposed by Aurangzeb. It was remitted through the good offices of Jai Sinh, but it was again assessed during his reign. It was suspended by Farukhshiyar (1713-1719) but was finally done away with during the administration of the Saiyyad brothers.

Raja Jai Sinh was succeeded by his son, Ishwar Sinh, an event which gave rise to internecine feuds among the states of Rajputana. The throne was claimed by Madhu Sinh, half-brother of Ishwar Sinh, whose mother was the daughter of Rana Jagat Sinh of Mewad. He based his right on a compact† entered into between the famous Rana Pratap and the Chiefs of other Native States, including that of Amber, by which succession to the *gadi* was ensured to a son born of a Mewad princess, whether he be the heir-apparent or merely a cadet. On the strength of this stipulation Jagat Sinh recognised none else but his grandson, Madhu Sinh, as the rightful sovereign of Jaipur, and took up his sword to assert this claim. A pitched battle was fought, near Raja Mahal, between the Rana of Mewad, and the Marathas as the adherents of Ishwar Sinh, in which the former was defeated. Ishwar Sinh, elated with victory, marched against the Hada chiefs of Bundi and Kota and defeated them with the help of Sindhia. The Rana of Mewad now summoned Malhar Rao Holkar to his aid. The Maratha chieftain accepted the call on condition that the Rana should pay to Holkar 80 *lakhs* of rupees in hard cash, and cede to him the districts of Rampura, Bhanpura, and Tonk Rampura, yielding an annual income of four *lakhs* of rupees, in the event of Holkar succeeding in deposing Ishwar Sinh and placing Madhu Sinh on the throne of Amber. Ishwar Sinh, growing apprehensive of his safety, committed suicide by swallowing a dose of poison, and thus cleared the way for Madhu Sinh to the throne of Jaipur.

Madhu Sinh showed signs of a great and benevolent ruler, but he was constantly hampered by the neighbouring Jats of Bharatpur, who were just rising into prominence. Once in a deadly contest with the Jats, he lost many of his brave warriors, and himself received a mortal wound, though he succeeded in routing the enemy. He died of the effects of the wound, four days after the fight. Many of his contemporaries were of opinion, that had he been spared longer, not only would the state of Jaipur have escaped

† Rana Pratap of Mewad stopped all social intercourse with the chiefs of Amber (Jaipur) Marwar and other native states in Rajputana (Bundi excepted) who contrary to the dictates of Hindu religion, gave their daughters in marriage to the Mughal Emperors at Delhi. These chiefs, there-upon entreated Pratap to resume the intercourse. The Rana acceded to their proposal on the following conditions, (1) That no Rajput chiefs should marry their daughters to Mussalman princes ; and (2) that succession to the *gadi* should be ensured to a son born of a princess of the Mewad house, whether he be the heir-apparent or simply a cadet. The eldest son born of any other princess should waive his right in favour of the grand-son of the Rana of Mewad.

its subsequent decline, but would have attained a high degree of prosperity. He had inherited from his father a love for scientific researches, and being an adept in the study of sciences, he had imparted his love of knowledge to his associates. He founded several new towns the chief of which was Madhu Rajapur, in the vicinity of the famous commercial town and hill-fort of Ranthambhor.

After the death of Madhu Sinh in 1763, Prithu Sinh II. ascended the throne. During his minority the Government was carried on by the mother of his step-brother, Pratap Sinh. She was a weak and immoral woman, and was completely under the control of her paramour, an elephant-driver. Prithu Raj sustained a severe fall from his horse, and died in 1778, after reigning for fifteen years. He is believed to have fallen a victim to the greedy ambition of his step-mother, who is suspected to have poisoned him. He left behind him two widows, one of whom had an infant son, named Man Sinh, who was safely escorted to his maternal home, and subsequently entrusted to the guardianship of Sindhia. Pratap Sinh, taking advantage of the infancy of his nephew, Man Sinh, ascended the throne. He ruled for 25 years. During the earlier part of his reign, his enemies, availing themselves of his inexperience and young age, reaped a rich harvest from the fertile plains of Jaipur. Pratap got rid of his infamous mother and her paramour by means of poison. The Maratha bands had commenced their marauding inroads on the native states of Rajputana. They carried in their train death and devastation wherever they went, and with a view to avert the impending ruin, the Rajput chiefs formed themselves into a powerful league against the Marathas. Pratap Sinh, who had, by that time, attained majority, had turned out a wise and capable ruler. He wrote to Raja Vijai Sinh of Marwad, expressing his determination of extirpating the predatory bands of the Marathas, if he received his assistance, and volunteered to take command of their combined troops. Vijai Sinh, agreeing to his proposals, their armies marched against the Marathas, whom they encountered near Tonga, 1787. Fascinated with a strange conviction that death on a field of battle would procure for them the bliss of Paradise, and secure for them the hands of lovely celestial nymphs in marriage, the Rajputs determined upon shedding the last drop of their blood in saving their country from the clutches of the Maratha depredators. The two armies met together, and the Rajput soldiery, undaunted by the well-disciplined battalions under the command of General De Boigne and their well-manned guns,

fell upon the Marathas, with bright Sirohi swords flashing in their hands, shouting their usual war-cry 'kill, strike,' and created a havoc in the enemy's ranks. Mowing down the gunners at their posts, they compelled the celebrated Mahadji Sindhia to flee for his life, abandoning his conquered territories. The Marathas, however, soon retrieved their fortunes through the valour of Mahadji, and the strategic skill of De Boigne. The contending armies met once more at Pattan, and Merta, in 1791, and the Marathas gained the victory. Holkar imposed a heavy annual tribute upon Jaipur, the right of collecting which was subsequently given over to Amir Khan, the notorious Pindhari free-booter. From this date till the end of 1803, Jaipur was constantly harassed by the invasions of Sindhia and bands of Rohilla marauders. The whole country was devastated and depopulated and had become a scene of rapine and blood-shed, owing to the constant feuds among these unruly tribes for the share of the booty. Pratap Sinh, though a brave prince, was unable to avert this calamity, being on all sides surrounded by mobs of robbers and plunderers.

Raja Pratap Sinh, dying in 1803, was succeeded by his son, Jagat Sinh. Without intelligence, valour or other like qualities, he was a wicked licentious and extravagant prince. The hand of the far famed Krishna Kumari, the beautiful daughter of Rana Bhim Sinh of Mewad, was sought in marriage by Bhim Sinh of Marwad. Bhim Sinh dying soon after, Man Sinh had ascended the Marwad throne. Jagat Sinh of Jaipur, hearing of the extraordinary beauty of Krishna, sent messengers of hymen to the court of Udaipur. The father of the bride accepted the offer, but Man Sinh of Marwad intervened, saying that though his predecessor, Bhim Sinh, was dead, yet as the fair Kumari was betrothed to the *gadi* of Marwad, he, as the occupant, of that throne, was entitled to her hand. He made a bold resolve to prevent the Raja of Jaipur from carrying away his prize. The armies of Marwad and Jaipur met near Gingoli and the demon of war was up. Though the cowardly Rana of Mewad had passed the ignominious fiat that 'Krishna Kumari should die,' hundreds of lives were lost on the fatal field. The Raja of Jaipur had led to the field an army consisting of 100,000 men composed of his own troops, and those of the Maratha, Pathan and Pindhari adventurers. Holkar first arrayed himself on the side of the Chief of Marwad, but was subsequently gained over by Jagat Sinh of Jaipur. Man Sinh fled from the battle-field, sustaining a signal defeat at the hands of his rival chief.

The enraged soldiery of the victorious army, now disengaged from war, carried fire and sword throughout the land of Maroo and plundered the innocent ryots. Jagat Sinh found his treasury exhausted and the foreign mercenaries, not getting their stipends, sacked the territories of Jaipur. Amir Khan, the leader of the Pindhari bands, was the most formidable character of the day, and in all plunders, he had the lion's share. Unscrupulous and unprincipled, money was with him the guiding spirit, and bribed over by Rana Man of Marwad, he invaded the beautiful city of Jaipur. The capital and its environments suffered much at the hands of this Pindhari free-booter.

It was in 1804, that the first alliance was formed between Jaipur and the British Power, but the non-intervention policy of Lord Cornwallis necessitated its subsequent abrogation. Sir George Barlow broke the solemn obligations entered into with the Maharaja of Jaipur. During the war with the Marathas, this Rajput monarch was a staunch ally of the English and had rendered them material service, but when he had to wage war with Sindhia and Holkar, not a single British soldier was sent to his succour. In 1813, it was resolved to renew the friendly connection with the Jaipur prince at the earliest opportunity, but the matter had to be delayed owing to the more pressing exigencies of the Nepal war and the rising of the Pindharis. In 1817, when the question of forming alliances with the more important Native States of India, came for consideration before the Council of His Excellency the Viceroy, the Peshwa and the Maharaja of Jaipur did not express their willingness to enter into the proposed confederacy. But the constant incursions of the Pindharis under Amir Khan on his territories, the necessity of maintaining a larger army to keep under control the leading members of the hereditary aristocracy, and the example of other native states, that had already entered into an alliance with the English, induced Jagat Sinh to join the coalition. On 2nd April, 1818, a treaty was concluded between the English and the Maharaja of Jaipur, by which the latter acknowledged the supremacy of the British Power in India. The principal terms of the treaty were as under:—

(1) The Raja of Jaipur should furnish troops to the English in times of war, or whenever required by them.

(2) An annual tribute of 8 *lakhs* of rupees should be paid to the British treasury so long as the revenues of the state amounted to 40 *lakhs* a year.

(3) In case the annual income exceeded 40 lakhs of rupees, five sixteenths of the increased amount should be paid to the English, in addition to the tribute stipulated above.

Jagat Sinh, now seated secure on his throne, after the formation of the above-mentioned alliance, turned his attention towards resuming the lands misappropriated by his leading courtiers and chiefs. While making a settlement with his *Bhayats*, he acted in the most arbitrary manner which called for the interference of Sir David Ochterlony, then the Resident at Delhi, who brought about the settlement on lines adopted in Mewad. It was arranged that the lands misappropriated by the *Patavats* should be resumed by the state ; but a peaceful enjoyment of the estates held by them from time immemorial was guaranteed to them. Jagat Sinh was a weak and incapable ruler, and was always guided by the evil counsel of courtesans, eunuchs and such other worthless menials.

Raja Jagat Sinh died on 2nd December, 1818. He had no son, nor had he adopted one during his life-time. All the leading nobles of the realm assembled together to consider as to who should succeed him to the throne and perform the obsequies. It was resolved that Mohan Sinh, the son of the deposed chief of Narwar, who was fourteenth in descent from Prithvi Raja I, should be taken in adoption, placed on the *gadi*, and the funeral ceremonies be performed by him. This decision was carried out, though not without a strong opposition from some, who were of opinion that it was both illegal and unjustifiable to adopt a distant relative in supercession of nearer ones, when such were in existence. A civil war seemed imminent, when it was announced that of the seventeen widows of the late monarch, the Bhattani Rani was pregnant. To make matters certain the other sixteen widows, and the wives of the leading aristocracy met in the palace of the Bhattani Rani on the 1st of April; and after full investigation reported that the Rani was pregnant beyond all doubt. It was therefore unanimously resolved that in the event of the birth of a son, the accession of Mohan Sinh be cancelled, and the new-born child declared king of Jaipur. A son was born to the Bhattani Rani on April 25th, 1819. The child was named Jai Sinh III. or Savai Jai Sinh, hailed by the nobles as the lord of the Kachhwahas, and duly installed on the *gadi*, by Sir David Ochterlony. Mohan Sinh was sent back to his principality of Narwar. The administration was carried on by one Vairisal, under the guidance of the Queen-Dowager, Bhattaniji, on behalf of the infant monarch ; but the matters were brought to a crisis

by the constant interference of Bhattaniji, acting under the advice of one Sangi Jodharam, and other court-intriguers. The Resident arrived at Jaipur and advised the Rani to dismiss Jodharam. The Dowager Lady at first turned a deaf year to the advice of the Resident, but when she saw that the bold determination of the British officer to restore order at any price involved her own ruin, she agreed to turn out Jodharam from her service. The British Resident appointed an officer of his own confidence, and through him administered the affairs of Jaipur. In 1835, when the district of Shekhavati under Jaipur was infested by bands of law-less robbers, an English detachment under General Stephenson was ordered to march against them, and dispersing them, to restore peace and order throughout the disturbed territories. In addition to this it was also thought expedient to permanently post there a small contingent to prevent repetition of such disturbances. The military charges of this contingent were to be defrayed from the share which the Raja of Jaipur had in the revenues derived from salt, obtained from the lake of Sambhar, and which the British Government were now empowered to realise directly on their own account. While these stipulations were being entered into for the peaceful settlement of Shekhavati, news were brought of the sudden death of Maharaja Jai Sinh, who, at the young age of 18, expired at Jaipur in 1863. The dead body of the young prince was not found, and people attributed his death to some foul play. The untimely death of the Maharaja gave rise to grave suspicions, and Sangi Jodharam and the slave girl Rupa were openly spoken of as having some hand in the nefarious deed. Jodharam, as mentioned above, was a great favourite of the Queen-mother, and through her influence, had risen to the exalted post of Dewan of Jaipur. The Agent to His Excellency The Governor General went personally to Jaipur to make inquiries regarding the suspicious death of the Maharaja, and though nothing reliable came out of the investigation, Jodharam was at all events dismissed from the head of the administration. The infant prince Ram Sinh, the son of the deceased Maharaja, then only 2 years old, was taken under the guardianship of the Paramount Power, and a Political Agent was appointed to carry on the Government at Jaipur. Under the new administration, affairs were managed with such rigour and exactness that Jodharam, despairing of success, grew desperate, and began to devise schemes against the lives of Colonel Alas, the Political Agent, and his Assistant Mr. Blake. The latter of these two officers fell a victim to his diabolical plots. The murderers were seized and blown up at the cannon's mouth, while Jodharam was imprisoned for life in the hill-fort of Chunar.

The infant prince Ram Sinhji, as stated above, was placed under the protection of a British officer, who administered the affairs at Jaipur, assisted by a council of Regency composed of five leading nobles of the state. That council, with the object of effecting a general retrenchment, reduced the number of the standing troops, reorganised and reformed several departments in the state, put down the cruel practices of enforced slavery and infanticide; and finding the annual tribute a little too exorbitant in proportion to the annual revenues, remitted, in 1842, a sum of 46 *lakhs* of rupees from the arrears of tribute; at the same time decreasing the yearly amount by four *lakhs* of rupees.

In 1857 on Maharaja Ram Sinhji's attaining years of discretion, the sole administration was entrusted to his care. He proved an efficient and benevolent ruler. In recognition of the valuable services rendered by him to the cause of the British Crown during the troublous times of the Indian Mutiny, the Supreme Government granted him the district of Kot Kassim, on condition that the management of the ceded territory should rest with the English, and after deducting all expenses incidental to such management, the surplus revenues alone should go to the coffers of the Maharaja of Jaipur. In 1864 the Kuchhwaha chief received from the British Government a *sanad* of adoption. Maharaja Ram Sinhji improved the general condition of the roads within his dominions, gave a stimulus to liberal education by the establishment of English and Sanskrit Colleges, girl's school and Arts College, while without demanding any compensation he gave lands to the British Government for the construction of the Rajputana Malwa Railway.

During the famine of 1868, he generously abolished the levy of Income-Tax, and in addition opened costly relief-works, thus saving the lives of thousands of poor famine-stricken ryots. The Government expressed their approval of his benevolent policy by raising his personal salute from 17 to 19 guns. The Maharaja always sought with pleasure the elevating society of respectable English ladies and gentlemen. He was twice nominated to the Council of His Excellency the Viceroy as an additional member for making Laws and Regulations. In March 1875, a commission consisting of six members, three Europeans and three Natives, was appointed to inquire into the charge brought against Malhar Rao Gackwad, of attempting to poison Colonel Phayre, the British Resident at the Baroda Court, and as one of the three Native Commissioners, Maharaja Ram Sinhji of Jaipur was chosen for that responsible task.

The Maharaja went to Calcutta to accord a fitting reception to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, on his arrival there on 23rd December 1875. He was also present at the grand Darbar, held on the next day, in honour of the native chiefs and nobility assembled there for the occasion, and was decorated with the title of a Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India on the 1st January 1876. His Royal Highness not only paid him a return visit at Calcutta, but on the 4th of February arrived at Jaipur, and availed himself of the hospitality of the refined Maharaja. He paid a flying visit to Amber, the ancient capital, and saw the old royal palace. The royal guest was highly pleased with the round of entertainments given in his honour by his hospitable host, and among many things, laid the foundation-stone of a large Town-Hall, which was to bear his august name.

Maharaja Ram Sinhji was present at Delhi at the Imperial Assemblage held by Lord Lytton on the 1st of January 1877, in connection with the assumption, by H. M. G. M. Queen Victoria, of the proud title of Empress of India. The Maharaja was honoured with the title of the 'Counsellor of the Empress.' His salute was raised from 19 to 21 guns. A new 'Imperial Council of India' was created of which Governors, Lieutenant Governors, principal European officials in the three Presidencies and efficient rulers of important native states were appointed members, and, as a representative of those mentioned last, Maharaja Ram Sinhji was nominated a member of that august body.

On the 18th September 1880 Maharaja Ram Sinhji died at Jaipur, amid universal regret, and was succeeded by a relative, named Khaim Sinh, who was nominated as his successor by the Maharaja on his death-bed.

The selection of Khaim Sinh as the future ruler of Jaipur was formally sanctioned by the Supreme Government, and he ascended the vacant throne under the name and title of Madhav Sinh II. The youthful chief was then in his nineteenth year, and a Council of Administration was appointed to carry on the Government during his non-age, of which the Maharaja was made the president jointly with the British Resident.

On the 6th September, 1882, the Maharaja attained his majority and was entrusted with the sole management of his dominions. He had already been invested with the *insignia* of the Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India.

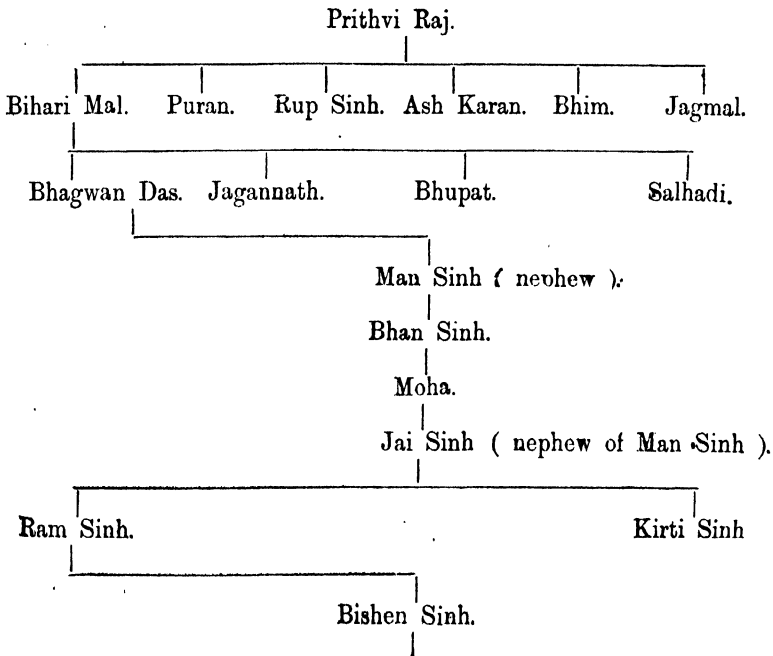
Prithi Raja, a celebrated ruler of Jaipur in days gone by, had twelve sons, to each of whom he had given independent estates, which are to

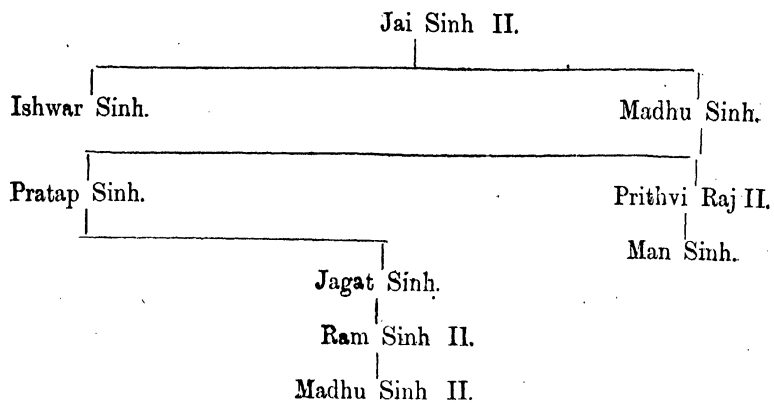
this day known by the name of Bara (twelve) Kotris. The descendants of the eldest son of Prithi Raja occupy the most influential place at the Jaipur Darbar. On failure of direct succession, the *gadi* of Jaipur is as a rule occupied by the representatives of that principal stock, known by the name of Rajawats, in preference to those descended from the other sons of Prithi Raja. The appanages, now held by the descendants of these younger sons, are more than twelve in number. Out of these some have been acquired by the heirs of earlier rulers, while some of the estates granted by Prithi Raj Singh have been extinct. Whatever they may have then been the *agirs* are at this day commonly known by the name of Bara Kotris.

The present Chief holds judicial powers of life and death over his subjects and as the Maharaja of Jaipur, is entitled to a salute of 19 guns.

Genealogical tree.

Dhola Rae, Kankal, Medal Rae, Hun Dev, Kuntal, Panjoon, Malesi, Bijal, Raja Dev, Kitan, Kuntal II., Junsī, Ude Kāran, Narsinh, Vanveer, Udharan, Chandrasen,——





(The present Maharaja.)

Residence—Jaipur, Rajputana ; North-western India.



BHOPAL.

Area.—6,784 sq. miles. Population.—947,214.

Revenue.—28,00,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north and west by Sindhia's territory and several petty states of Central India Agency ; on the east by the British district of Sagar ; and on the south by the Narbada and Holkar's territory of Aimawar. It was in the beginning of the 18th century that Dost Mahomed Khan laid the foundation of the Bhopal State. This Pathan Umrah was a military adventurer, who had come from distant climes on the other side of Cabul, and had taken refuge at the court of Delhi under the auspices of Emperor Aurangzeb. His courage and martial attainments had struck with admiration the heart of the Emperor, by whom he was appointed superintendent of the district of Bhairsia in the province of Malwa. Dost Mahomed Khan thus gained in 1690, his first footing upon which, he subsequently built the mighty edifice of the Bhopal State, which he bequeathed to his posterity. Aurangzeb, the last of the mighty Mughals, expired in 1707, and the general distraction, which followed the succession of the weak Emperor, Bahadur Shah, on the throne, was turned by the ambitious Dost Mahomed to his own advantage, and he rose to pre-eminent power by deeds of chivalry, of perfidy and of stratagem. He robbed the neighbouring *Thakores* and *Zamindars* of their petty possessions and incorporated them all into a compact principality, which became the central nucleus of the State. He assumed the pretentious title of a Nawab, and issued regal mandates from Bhopal, where he established the seat of his government. The plots and intrigues which raged so vehemently during his regime, gave him so many opportunities for whetting his intellect and military propensities ; and he showed them all to great advantage during the countless expeditions of aggression, which occupied his whole life. When he died in 1723, at the age of sixty-six, Dost Mahomed had really completed his conquests, and had tacked to his capital all the neighbouring domains, which continued unextended in the hands of his descendants to the present day. After his death, a dispute arose as to the rival claims of succession, between his two sons, Sultan Mahomed and Yar Mahomed, the first being a younger but a legitimate son, the latter, an elder but illegitimate one, being born of a courtesan with whom Dost Mahomed had contracted a left-handed marriage. Taking advantage of

the latter's absence at the court of the Nizam, Sultan Mahomed was raised to the *masnad* by the Pathan courtiers. Yar Mahomed, however, as the rightful heir-apparent, claimed the throne of his father, and his cause was espoused by Nizam-ul-Mulk, with whose assistance he succeeded in vanquishing the Pathan allies of his brother. A treaty was negotiated between the two brothers, by which Sultan Mahomed abdicated the throne, and in lieu of this renunciation of his right, he received in hereditary grant the fortress of Rathgarh with its subject-territories. Yar Mahomed thus eventually sat upon the *gadi* at Bhopal, but, being a spurious son of his father, he was not recognised as Nawab by many Pathan Sirdars of the State. Yar Mahomed had not the courage of his father, nor did he inherit many of the other exemplary qualities which adorned the founder of the *Raj*. After his death, Faiz Mahomed, his eldest son, was raised to the throne of the Nawabs at Bhopal.

Faiz Mahomed was as little qualified as his deceased father to discharge adequately the arduous duties to which he was thus called; there was one essential difference, however, between the father and the son, for though the latter had no shining or bright intellect within him, he had immense power of persuasion, by which he could keep his subject Umrahs in effectual control. The sole administration of the State was, however, confined to the hands of his Hindu Ministers, for the Nawab was a religious recluse, and led a retired life of divine contemplation. In his own faith for the Koran he was a staunch bigot; yet, to his credit be it said that he was tolerant, and had no spirit of religious propagandaism, nor was he debased by any fanatic zeal for making converts to his own creed. Vijaya Ram, the Hindu Dewan, had allotted to him several districts to defray his religious expenses out of the proceeds; and of the residue the sole management was entrusted to the hands of this faithful and farsighted Hindu. During his administration Baji Rao, the great Peshwa, on his way back from Delhi, invaded the territories of Bhopal; and to preserve the very existence of the State, Vijaya Ram had to appease the greedy Peshwa's avarice by ceding to him a half of the Nawab's dominions. Faiz Mahomed died after a prolonged reign of 38 years; he had not the brilliant or martial qualities of a king, but as a man he was godly and a saint in life. He had a simple and unsophisticated heart, had very few wants and had successfully mastered all the evil passions that "flesh is heir to." After his death he was revered by the Mahomedans as an "*Oliak*" or Saint.

He was succeeded by his brother, Yassein Mahomed, who, however sur-

vived him only for a few days; and after his death Hyat Mahomed, another brother of the deceased Nawab, was raised to the *masnad*. These two Princes, who were thus raised to the first rank in the State in such rapid succession, had neither the talents, nor the capacities of a monarch, and were only the nominal heads of the government, the chief power and control of affairs resting with the shrewd and ambitious Dewans. Hyat Mahomed had embraced a life of devotion and austerity, and never looked to the affairs of the State. It was from this apathetic want of interest in the prosperity of the subjects, evinced by successive Nawabs, that the custom originated, by which a portion of the revenues of the district, to the amount of about five *laks*, was set apart for the personal expenses of the sovereign, and the residue was superintended by the Dewan, with all the irresponsible independence of an absolute potentate.

At the outset of Hyat Mahomed's rule the reins of government were thus in the hands of his Dewan, Fowlad Khan, one of his *murceeds* or *chellas*, for he was originally a Hindu, converted by the pious prince to the true faith of Islam, and thus imagined to have been saved from eternal perdition. In 1778, General Goddard, while leading the Bengal detachment under his command to fight the Marathas in the Deccan, crossed the territories of Bhopal, and was struck with the extremely friendly treatment his troops received at the hands of the subjects.

This hospitality contrasted very favourably with the shabby treatment, which the English experienced elsewhere; for the General, on his way had to cross through the territories of several Rajput and other chiefs, who were all of them more or less tributary dependents of the courts of the Marathas in Central India, and consequently they harassed the English troops and presented serious obstacles to their onward march. The Nawab of Bhopal, not only allowed the English detachment to pass freely through his domains, but also lent a helping hand to General Goddard, and actively co-operated with him in removing all the impediments to his progress, and thus facilitated his march to the Deccan, which had once been pronounced to be hopelessly impracticable by the disappointed General. The Nawab thus established his claim to the gratitude of the English, and the old alliance thus formed was subsequently cemented by an interchange of many good offices, and the friendship between these two powers continues unabated to the present day.

Serious family quarrels now ensued between Fowlad Khan, the Dewan,

and Mahji Sahibah, or the lady-mother, the old widow of Yar Mahomed, the son of Dost Mahomed Khan, in which the Dewan fell a victim to the court intrigues. He was slain and was succeeded in his office by Chatta Khan, another *mureed* of the pious Nawab.

Chatta Khan held the seals of office for many years, during which he wisely directed all his efforts towards securing the blessings of peace and order to the subjects. They were times of tranquillity and prosperity, and many improvements were effected in the condition of the people. The management of the state-affairs under him was, however, not free from foreign intervention; for there was not a single court in Central India uninfluenced by the intrigues of Maratha factions. On the death of the preceding Nawab, Yassein Mahomed, several leagues had sprung up to support the pretensions of as many candidates to the throne; and at this period Ameer Khan, who rose to be the celebrated leader of the Pindaris, at the head of only six horse and sixty foot soldiers, had placed his services at the disposal of the partisans of Hyat Mahomed, who was eventually raised to the throne. The adventurous Ameer Khan, subsequently, joined Sindhia's forces, and served as second in command of the auxiliary contingent, despatched from Gwalior, under Balaram Inglia, to the relief of Bhopal. Ameer Khan had a very prosperous career before him, and his rise was so rapid that he soon became the generalissimo of Holkar's troops. He rose to the zenith of power, and established the principality of Tonk, which to this day is held by the descendants of this Pindari chief.

During the latter part of Hyat Mahomed's reign, he was constantly harassed by the incessant incursions of the Pindaris and other Maratha free-booters, who overran the dominions of Bhopal from one end to the other, to the extreme distress of the suffering people. The system of maintaining an army on pillage, which the Maratha powers then adopted in Central India, was extremely barbarous; and the irruptions of these plundering marauders and other Pindari gangs on the territories of Bhopal were, in consequence, so numerous that the poor Nawab trembled at the prospect of immediate destruction. The country was covered over by these plundering parties as if by a swarm of locusts, and such was the general consternation that immense fears were widely entertained as to the security of the State of Bhopal. The apprehensions of the timid Nawab were also fostered by the exaggerated reports of some interested adventurers, who circulated wild rumours to the effect that Bhopal would soon be dismembered

by the contending powers. These evil forebodings would soon have been realised had not a saviour appeared on the stage at that crisis in the person of one Vizier Mahomed, who instantly hastened to the relief of his native land, which had been thus menaced with imminent peril.

Vizier Mahomed was a cousin of the reigning Nawab, but was banished the land for having in his early life joined a conspiracy against the Dewan. The many adversities he passed through, during his exile, and the patriotic zeal, which burnt within his breast and spurred him to the relief of the land of his fathers, when it was surrounded by dangers on all sides, afford such a lively interest to the incidents of his life that something like a romance hangs about the tale of our hero, in the annals of Bhopal. He returned to the capital, solaced the Nawab in his troubles, and, with sword in hand, fell with such impetuosity on the Maratha free-booters that they soon evacuated the country at the peril of their lives. Vizier Mahomed was a gallant cavalier, and commanded equal respect for his cool judgment as for his intrepid courage in war, in the hearts of his friends as well as foes. Within less than eight months he liberated his country from the pest of pillage, and the terror which his name inspired amongst his enemies was so deep-rooted that they never again dared to harass the subjects of Bhopal. To Hyat Mahomed he restored the principality of Bhopal in all its pristine magnitude; and for himself he seized the seals of the office of Dewan. He carried on the administration with skill and ability, and the deliberations of the Nawab's council were, at this period, all pervaded with his broad and statesman-like views. The self-interested and narrow-minded courtiers, however, grew jealous of his power, and the flattering parasites of the Nawab poisoned his ears against this capable and clever Dewan, though it was really he, who had prevented the State from being swallowed up by the Marathas, and had thus re-laid the foundation of the present *Raj*. There were, also, some plausible grounds of suspicion against the Dewan, for he was suspected, though falsely, of secretly cherishing feelings of revenge against the State. He would, it was alleged, avenge his father's blood spilt by the preceding Dewan, and on the strength of his greater popularity, would one day attempt to usurp the throne of the Nawabs for himself. Ghous Mahomed, the heir-apparent to the throne, felt the cogency of these arguments, and he was in search of a rival grandee, who could ably fill the office of Dewan and thus nip the soaring ambition of Vizier Mahomed in its bud. They at last hit upon one Murid Mahomed, the hereditary lord of

Rathgarh, a descendant of the legitimate heir of Dost Mahomed, the original stock of the family, and he was formally installed as the Dewan, from which office Vizier Mahomed, the benefactor of the State, was removed by the unappreciating Nawab. Plans were also laid out for the destruction of this promising hero, for Vizier Mahomed was now sent out to fight the Maratha free-booters in the neighbourhood.

During his absence Ghous Mahomed, in concert with Murid Mahomed, wielded the regal power with all the tyranny of an autocrat, and filled his own coffers at the expense of the poor ryots. The subjects in their distress invoked the assistance of the Marathas, and with the troops of Sindhia, they now meditated a conjoint assault upon the capital. A favourable opportunity had thus presented itself to Vizier Mahomed for wreaking his vengeance upon the ungrateful Nawab who had wronged him; but nobler feelings prevailed with this patriot and gained ascendancy over all thoughts of revenge. He proved faithful to the land he loved and instantly repaired to its relief. Few hopes he had of victory, however, against the numerous odds of the Maratha foes, who were re-inforced at every stage by strong bands of the infuriated populace; but Vizier Mahomed seemed to have been, as it were, wedded to success and good luck. Fresh troubles arose at Sindhia's capital, which necessitated the recall of the contingent sent against Bhopal, and thus Providence again helped Vizier Mahomed in his heroic defence of his native land. All the blame of this unsuccessful expedition was laid on the head of the unfortunate Murid Mahomed, the Dewan, who, with crooked duplicity, had been holding secret converse with the leaders of the Maratha auxiliary. The Maratha depredators were extremely exasperated, for they were balked of all their hopes of anticipated plunder. In their rage they dragged the ill-starred Murid Mahomed with them during their retreat, and such was the harsh treatment to which he was subjected that he put an end to his wretched life, while in the custody of his Maratha allies. Murid Mahomed had a meteoric career, during the few years he acted on this stage of life; he rose to be a Dewan by his practice of dissimulation, which eventually effected his speedy ruin.

Vizier Mahomed was now confirmed in the office of Dewan; and under his administration the State of Bhopal flourished and prospered with amazing rapidity. When he assumed the *insignia* of the office he found the treasury empty, the army dissipated and the whole country suffering from abnor-

mal exhaustion owing to impoverished resources. The intellect of Vizier Mahomed and his moral courage and fixity of purpose were all brought to bear upon this state of chaos, and within a short time he introduced all the desired reforms in the various departments, and succeeded in restoring the Government of Bhopal to a state of perfection. The time for the emancipation of the State from the thralldom of ill-fate was near at hand, and would surely have been laid hold of by the vigilant Dewan, had not its approach been cut off by the stupidity of the weak-minded Ghous Mahomed, who again invoked the assistance of the Marathas and the Pindaris, and thus plunged the State into all the horrors of a foreign intervention.

In 1803, Hyat Mahomed, the nominal Nawab, was joined to his ancestors, and after his death, his son, Ghous Mahomed, ascended the *masnad*. It was he, who, as has been recounted, had sued the Marathas for help, as a counter-check to the growing power of the Dewan. On the arrival of the Marathas, Vizier Mahomed had to retire from public life for a time; but he returned again at the proper occasion, and expelling the infidel Marathas from the land of the Pathans, he resumed his office at the head of affairs at Bhopal. Henceforth Ghous Mahomed was but a Nawab in name; the real power rested entirely with Vizier Mahomed, who was recognised by all the foreign powers as an independent potentate at Bhopal. For nine long years he carried on, with various vicissitudes of fortune, an interminable war for the defence of his country against powerful foes, in the neighbourhood of the State. In 1809, the oppression of the Pindaris had gone far beyond his means of control, and he had to enter into a compact with these plunderers for the sake of averting the disastrous effects of their mischief from his dominions. Shortly after this Vizier Mahomed opened negotiations with the English for help, and he eagerly manifested his willingness to enter into an alliance with these foreigners from the West; but though his overtures failed on this occasion, he persisted in his policy of courting the English for a friendly alliance. In the beginning of the year 1812, the conjoint armies of Sindhia and the Raja of Berar besieged the fortress of Bhopal. This memorable siege lasted for full nine months, during which time the scanty band of spirited soldiers, under the heroic Vizier Mahomed, conducted themselves with such intrepid courage and bravery that they still command the admiration of the present generation in that part of India. There was extreme distress amongst the besieged owing to the scarcity of provisions consequent upon the protracted siege; but the self-abnegation of the patriotic Pathans went to the

marvellous length of their being content only with boiled tamarind-stones for their food. The besiegers tried in vain to escalate the walls and threaten the Pathans into submission. The numbers of the latter had gradually dwindled down to thirty good folks, and the hopes of Bhopal rested with this gallant band of defenders. Victory was, however, chained to the standard of Vizier Mahomed, who bore as it were a charmed life. Tired of the prolonged siege and the consequent want of food, he led a desperate sally against the besiegers with such impetuosity that the enemy had to raise the siege and retire, leaving the *elite* of their army slain upon the field. A year later in 1813, however, Sindhia and Raghoji Bhonsle of Nagpur made fresh preparations for renewing the siege; but this time the English intervened and averted from Bhopal its imminent destruction. The persistent suing for English help was at last successful and the residents at the courts of Gwalior and Nagpur prevailed upon the respective monarchs to desist from harassing Bhopal. Vizier Mahomed dwelt upon Bhopal's ancient claim to English gratitude for having on a previous occasion lent friendly help to the English brigades, under General Goddard, and from this moment the two powers were on relations of close intimacy. Eighteen months after this, in February 1816, Vizier Mahomed breathed his last, leaving after him a good name as one of the wisest of rulers, the bravest of soldiers and the most devoted of patriots, and Bhopal to this day is justly proud of this its distinguished Dewan. After him Nazer Mahomed, his eldest son, succeeded him as Dewan, and it was this Nazer Mahomed, whose grand-daughter rules over the destinies of Bhopal at the present day.

Nazer Mahomed, a worthy son of a worthy father, was, however, grudgingly spared by cruel Fate, to wield the sceptre at Bhopal, only for four short years; but these were best utilized by the prince, who spared no pains to secure the welfare of his loving subjects. In the following year, he succeeded in entering into a friendly compact with the English for mutual support, and a treaty was definitely arranged, by the terms of which the Nawab bound himself to assist the English in their crusade against the Pindaris. At Hussingabad, on the 26th of February 1818, a final agreement was arrived at between the two powers, which avowed feelings of ever-lasting friendship for each other. The revenues of Bhopal had been raised by the indefatigable efforts of Vizier Mahomed to the handsome amount of 20 *lakhs*, per year; and now Bhopal with its improved resources was permanently

guaranteed to the Nawabs, in the line of Vizier Mahomed, by the paramount power. The Nawab undertook to maintain in his own dominions a contingent of 600 horse and 400 infantry for the service of the British army whenever required. Bhopal was at the same time exempted from the payment of tribute to the British, who also restored to its domains, all the territories it had lost in the recent disastrous war with the Marathas. The land-owners, however, who were thus dispossessed in the interests of Bhopal, were promised full compensation by the State, which undertook to set apart an annual sum of 6,000 rupees for the purpose. When the internal affairs of the State were thus brought on a satisfactory footing, it next made a very creditable move in a novel direction. Some plots of land were allotted to several *Peudaras*, who were thus tamed down to peaceful peasant-proprietors and thence subsisted themselves on the fruits of agriculture, no longer stained by the blood of their brethren so profusely shed by them before. Next, year in 1819, the brilliant Nazer Mahomed was cut off in the youth and hey-day of his glory by a very sad accident. While in the harem he was fondling and caressing his lovely daughter in his arms a loaded pistol tied to his waist was accidentally discharged, and of the fatal wound he expired shortly after, at the early age of twenty eight.

Nazer Mahomed had been wedded to the daughter of Ghous Mahomed, the nominal Nawab, and by this princess, who was generally known by the name of Kudsia Begam, he had only one daughter Sikander Begam, who became the heir of her father's throne. When Sikander Begam ascended the *masnad* after her father's death, it was arranged among the prominent Ameers of Bhopal, with the approval of the British Government, that she should marry her cousin, Munir Mahomed Khan, a son of Nazer Mahomed's elder brother; who admitting his own incapacity had resigned the throne in favour of the younger prince on the occasion of Vizier Mahomed's death. Munir Mahomed Khan, according to this arrangement, was also to share the throne of Bhopal with his wife, during whose minority and till the time of her marriage, it was proposed that Kudsia Begam the Queen-dowager should hold the reins of government in her own hands. The proposal was acted upon, and Kudsia Begam, the youthful widow of seventeen, assumed the regal functions as the Queen-Regent of the State. In the early years of the Regency Kudsia Begam carried on the administration with prudence and judgment, following the counsels of the wise and faithful ministers of the time of her deceased lord, Nazer Mahomed, whom she had

retained in service ; but as time went on the Begam's love of power waxed stronger, and her ambition soared so high that it could be satisfied with nothing less than the assumption of absolute control in the State. At the same time she adopted no means to cloak her design, and she publicly gave it out that it was no longer intended to give Princess Sikander Begam in marriage to her nephew, Munir Mahomed Khan. The disappointed youth was extremely chafed at this insult and swore that he would by all means marry the princess and share the diadem with his illustrious bride. Kudsia Begam resented this effrontery of the youth and the defiant attitude he had assumed, and publicly annulled the matrimonial arrangement. The family dispute was referred to the arbitration of the principal Ameers of Bhopal, who all decided that Kudsia Begam was to retain the sceptre of government in her hands during her life ; that the stipulation of marriage with Munir Khan was no longer of any effect, and that he was to rest content with the grant of a *jagir*, yielding a sum of forty thousand a year ; that the young princess Sikander Begam was to be given over in marriage to Jehangir Mahomed, a brother of Munir ; and that the seals of Government were to be handed over to him on the demise of Kudsia Begam. This arrangement was effected in 1827, and eight years later, in the month of April, Sikander Begam was married to her cousin, Jehangir Mahomed. The alliance, however, instead of closing the family feuds greatly stimulated the mutual hostilities. The courtiers ranged themselves round three personages of eminence in the State ; there were the partisans of Kudsia Begam, allies of Princess Sikander and friends of Jehangir Mahomed. The latter, however, had committed himself to a mistaken line of conduct ; had he patiently awaited a good opportunity and abided his time he would soon have been raised to the *masnad*. But his ambition and eager desire to clutch the sceptre in his hand often drove him to rash and inconsiderate actions. He soon began to lay plots for apprehending the person of Kudsia Begam, and the various details of the conspiracy were so artfully arranged and were carried out with such precision and profound secrecy that he was very near gaining his desired end. At the critical moment, however, nobler feelings got the better of him, and his sentimental nature lost him the prize his ambition had gained. Kudsia Begam was entrapped into his hands, but he squandered away the good opportunity, and instantly restored her to liberty. The hostilities were again

revived, and now they raged very high. The troops of Jehangir Mahomed were repulsed with great loss, and he had to seek shelter in the fastness of Ashta. The Begam's forces laid siege to this fortress, which lasted for full two months. At last both the contending parties, worn out with this mode of warfare, agreed to seek the arbitration of the British Government and to abide by whatever they would decide. It was on this occasion finally arranged, through British intercession, that Kudsia Begam was to resign the administration of the State and that she should retire on a *jagir*, yielding an annual sum of sixty thousand rupees, which she was to receive for her life; and that the sole charge of the Government was to be entrusted to the hands of Jehangir Mahomed. In pursuance of this agreement, on the 29th of November 1837, Jehangir Mahomed was installed on the throne of Bhopal, with the assent of Kudsia Begam, which she now readily and sincerely accorded without any reservation. Thenceforth the Begam never interfered with the government of her son-in-law. The blessings of peace and prosperity, however, were not in store for the State for some time to come. Sikander Begam, the royal consort of the Nawab, was a highly intellectual, courageous and spirited lady, and her passionate love of absolute power often brought her interests in to conflict with those of her husband. The court of Bhopal was frequently troubled by these unpleasant relations of the royal couple. In this, by no means happy, plight the Nawab ruled for six years, during which the administration was marked by the vacillating policy of the weak, indolent and extravagant monarch, who never during his rule exhibited any meritorious qualities that would lay claim to the admiration of posterity.

Jehangir Mahomed died in 1843, and after him his daughter, Princess Shah Jehan Begam, was nominated the heiress of all his fortune and power. During her minority, however, her mother, Sikander Begam, was at the helm of affairs as the Queen-Regent of the State. Sikander Begam was by nature a talented and gifted lady, and now that the obstruction of her perverse lord to her liberal policy had been removed, she found a suitable opportunity of bringing to light the many admirable qualities of her head and heart. Her schemes of introducing many important reforms in the administration of the State, which had suffered of late owing to the family troubles and the consequent civil war, and of setting a brilliant example of what courage and prudence even a female could possess, were now matured and fully developed. During her six years' rule she liquidated

all the debts and liabilities of Bhopal, and thoroughly revised the working of the different departments in the State. The system of granting monopolies to tradesmen and manufacturers, which had prevailed on a large scale, and by which the freedom of commerce had been seriously hampered, was now abolished, and every subject in the realm was left free to adopt whatever calling he liked or profession he loved. A mint was established in the State which had its own coinage; and an efficient and well-manned police was supplied to the remotest corner of the district. Day by day fresh improvements were embodied in the mode of administration, and several educated, experienced and capable officers were placed at the head of various departments. It was definitely arranged, however, that the Queen-Regent was to hold supreme power in the State only in trust for her young daughter, Princess Shah Jehan Begam, till the latter attained the age of eighteen; but at the time of the marriage of Shah Jehan Begam with Bakshi Baki Mahomed Khan, the commander-in-chief of the State forces, an increase of three years was allowed to the period of her rule previously agreed upon. The inexorable Begam, however, was not at all satisfied with this trifling concession. Bred up in a life of lofty ambition, Sikander Begam had passed her early days in an atmosphere of discontent and fond cravings for power, and had long cherished within her heart flattering hopes of wearing the diadem on her brow exclusively, for her life. She wanted the British Government to fall in with her views, and accordingly to them she introduced her daughter, Shah Jehan, as only a royal princess, she herself being virtually the sovereign of the State. She could not succeed in her design for a while, but subsequently she publicly proclaimed her intention not to part with absolute power during her life. Her fond daughter, Shah Jehan, did not dispute her mother's pretensions and willingly conceded to her the right to govern till the end of her life, and she expressly communicated her compliance with the above arrangement to the English Government.

In 1857, when the whole Indian Peninsula was involved in serious troubles owing to the great Mutiny of the sepoy, Sikander Begam not only kept herself aloof from all participation in the rebellion, but loyally and heartily supported her old allies, the English, in their difficult task of suppressing the revolt. In April, when she heard the news that the presumptuous and daring rebels had issued an insolent proclamation for the wholesale destruction of the British population, she at once conveyed

the intelligence to the Resident at Bhopal, whom she placed upon his guard. In June, that very year, when the disaffected insurgents were trying to raise a large army for the purpose of revolt, she expelled them from the dominions of Bhopal, heedless of any detrimental consequences she would thereby induce on her own head. In July again, when several unfortunate British officers had to fly from Indore, at their life's peril, pursued by the rage of the infuriated sepoys in the Holkar's army, it was Sikander Begam who generously afforded them shelter and harboured them securely in the territories of Bhopal. The good-hearted Begam, however, was herself involved in dire calamity owing to this partiality for her English allies. The name of Britain was in bad odour at the time and whoever sympathised with the Britons had to pay a heavy penalty. Accordingly the troops of Bhopal now joined the insurgent bands, and in company with the Indian sepoys in the British army they raised the standard of revolt against Sikander Begam. Kudsia Begam, her mother, who was a fanatic bigot, and her uncle, the weak-minded and timid Ameer Mahomed, endeavoured at the time to instigate her to revolt against the Paramount Power and massacre all the English Residents within her domains; but the righteous and faithful Begam spurned these evil counsels and adopted instant means to convey the hapless English folks and their shelterless and unprotected females, who had sought refuge in her territories, to Husingabad, a distant place of safety, where they would be beyond the vengeance of the maddened soldiery. She then directed her sword and her strategic skill towards suppressing the revolt in her own dominions and soon restored peace and tranquillity to the disturbed land. In the last scene of this eventful tragedy, when the strength of the rebels had reached its lowest ebb, and the English arms were turned upon them, anxious to wreak a deadly vengeance for the inhuman massacre of their innocent brethren, the Begam rendered valuable assistance to the English, both with her troops and with supplies of grain and ammunition. The English, in return, discharged their debt of gratitude by bestowing upon the good Begam a grant of the district of Bhairsiah, of which the Raja of Dhar had been previously dispossessed. In December 1859, the English Government granted to the Begam a *sanad* authorizing her to hold the principality of Bhopal in her own right, and at her death, to bequeath it to her daughter, Princess Shah Jehan, and her descendants according to the rules of inheritance laid down in the Koran. Four large guns were also presented to the Begam, who, on the 1st September 1863,

was decorated with the proud title of the "Most Exalted Order of the Star of India." Following the example of the English, who thus requited the friendly assistance they had received from the Begam, Sikander Begam, in her turn, generously distributed rich presents and liberal gifts amongst those of her subjects, who had faithfully stood by her and manfully assisted her at the time the revolt broke out at Bhopal. Two months after this, she prepared herself to set out on a pilgrimage to Mecca, and with great solicitude leaving her daughter, Shah Jehan Begam, to the protection of her English friends, she quitted the city of Bhopal. She intended at first to visit the holy shrine at Mecca, then to pay her respects to the sacred tomb of the Prophet at Medina, and thence if practicable to extend her journey to England, the home of her esteemed allies ; but the programme was subsequently dropped on account of the oppression of the turbulent gangs of *banditti* in the Arabian desert. In June 1864, she returned safe to Bombay, where she made a protracted halt for about four or five months. She thence returned to her capital, where after a wise and prudent rule for four years further, she expired on the 30th of October 1868, in the plenitude of her power and amidst the effulgence of her glory. Col. Malleson, in his "Native States of India," gives an extract from the order of the Government of India, which runs thus,—“Her Highness had conducted the administration of this principally since the year 1847, when she was first appointed Regent, with ability and success, until the day of her decease. In the early years of her rule she improved the system by which the revenue of the State is collected, abolished monopolies, regulated the mint, re-organised the police, and gradually increased the revenue, while she effectually diminished the public debt. In times, by her support of the cause of male and female education, by her superintendence of works intended to supply her capital with pure and wholesome water, by the construction of *serais* and roads, and by other improvements, she gave convincing indications of real and abiding interest in the progress of her people and in the prosperity of her country. But it was by her firm conduct during the great Mutiny that she established a more direct title to the acknowledgements of the head of administration. Her unswerving fidelity, her skill in the management of affairs at an important crisis, the bold front which she presented to the enemies of the British Power, and the vigilance with which she watched over the preservation of Englishmen, were acknowledged by Lord Canning, in open Durbar, in terms of well-deserved praise and commendation, and the

gratitude of the British Government was further evinced by a grant of territory, which its owner had justly forfeited for open rebellion, by a recognition of the right of succession according to the custom of the principality and the Mahomedan Law, and by the bestowal of one of those titles which the Sovereign of Great Britain, as the fountain of honour, has instituted to reward good services performed in India either by the Natives of the country, or by the British servants of the Crown.'

Shah Jehan Begam was thirty years old at the time she was raised to the *masnad* on her mother's death; and to this day she adorns the illustrious throne of Bhopal. She has been twice married; first her hand had been bestowed upon an Umrah of the name of Bakshi Baki Mahomed Khan, who, however, departed this life in 1867. Four years later, therefore, she was again wedded to a Sirdar, named Mahomed Sadik Hussein. By her first husband she has one daughter, Princess Sultan Jehan, whose hand was given in marriage to Mir Ahmed Ali Khan, an Ameer of Jallalabad, on the 1st February 1875. Princess Sultan Jehan, the present heiress, has received liberal education in the English tongue and has, at the present day, two sons and one daughter.

In 1875, when his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales visited this vast continent, which forms a mighty factor of the British Empire on which the sun never sets, the Begam repaired to Calcutta to pay him a visit as a mark of her respect for the British Crown; and the meeting that took place in the month of December between these two persons of eminence was of a very cordial and friendly character.

Her Highness Nawab Shah Jehan Begam was present on the 1st of January, 1877, at the Imperial Assemblage of Delhi, held by Lord Lytton, the Viceroy, to commemorate the happy occasion on which Her Majesty Queen Victoria assumed the dignity of "Kaisar-i-Hind" or the Empress of India. Here the Begam was decorated with the proud title of "Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India." Kudsia Begam, her grand-mother, the interesting old lady who had figured so prominently in the annals of Bhopal, was also honoured with the title of "Order of the Crown of India" and a personal salute of fifteen guns was also accorded to this worthy relict of Nazer Mahomed, on this occasion.

The English Government also bestowed upon Mahomed Sadik Hussein the personal distinction of Nawab for the sake of decorum; and in 1877 at the Imperial Assemblage of Delhi a personal salute of 17 guns was also

conferred upon him. Accordingly he was treated for some time with due respect ; but the seductions of power proved too strong for him, and he fell an easy prey to the snares and the dangers of his high social and political rank in the State. He was inebriated with his good luck and his head was turned by the eminent position to which he was exalted. H. H. the Begam, according to the time-honoured custom of her house, had retired behind the *Pardah* (Screen) a few years previous to 1885, and the administration of the State suffered much owing to the conduct of this royal consort of the Begam. His over-fondness for absolute power, his uncalled for and mischievous interference with the affairs of State and his undue lavishing of unmerited favours on unworthy kinsmen and incapable friends soon led to unbearable oppression, which succeeded in attracting the notice of the British Government and inviting their intervention with the internal working of the State. By the orders of the Secretary of State for India, Sir Lepel Griffin, the Agent to the Governor General at the Central India Agency, proceeded to Bhopal in 1885, and after several unsuccessful attempts to cure the pervading maladministration, he at last resorted to extreme measures, by depriving him of his title of Nawab and salute, and by enjoining him not to intermeddle with the transaction of public business. The Begam was further desired to nominate a suitable person who, as the responsible head of the Government would assist her in successfully carrying on the administration of the State. It was naturally expected that the choice of the Begam would fall upon a respectable Mahomedan, but the shrewd Begam thought that none but a competent European officer would be able to evolve order out of the chaos, then pervading her dominions, and she wrote to the Supreme Government to lend her the services of Col. Ward, who was then Commissioner of the Central Provinces. This nomination obtained the sanction of the Supreme Government, and Col. Ward was accordingly appointed minister of Bhopal, in June 1886. He, however, did not remain there long, and retiring in December 1888 to his original place, left the Bhopal *Dewanate* once more vacant. The Begam next appointed Mahomed Intiyaz Ali Kalm to that responsible post, and his nomination, too, was sanctioned by the Supreme Government.

On the 18th of November 1884 an interesting ceremony was performed on the occasion of the opening of the Bhopal State Railway, which had been constructed under the orders of the Begam at the enormous cost of five millions.

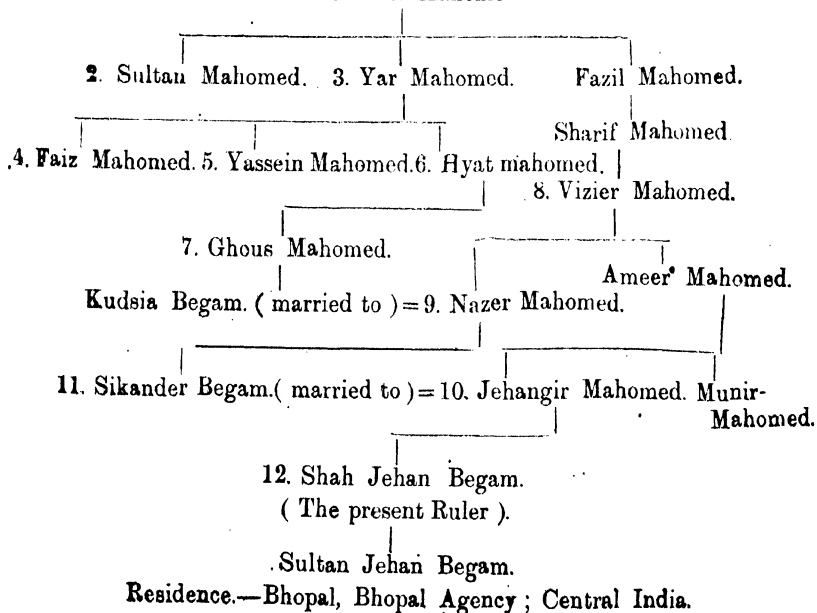
On the 16th of February 1887, on the occasion of the Jubilee of Her Majesty the Empress of India, the Begam of Bhopal had also her share in the general rejoicings and festivities of the day. The capital was tastefully illuminated and vast sums of money were laid out in charity in supplying food and raiment to the poor.

In the month of February 1890, died Nawab Sadik Hussein, the husband of the Begam. The devoted Begam was all along strenuously working to have her husband restored to all his former honours and rights, of which he had been deprived in 1885. Although the question was not definitely settled during his life-time, yet it was subsequently decided that in all official correspondence, Sadik Hussein Khan should be styled as 'the late Nawab Consort.'

Her Highness Nawab Shah Jehan Begam is now about 58 years of age, and enjoys a salute of 19 guns; and the criminal jurisdiction to which she is entitled embraces powers of life and death over her subjects.

Genealogical-tree.

1. Dost Mahomed.



KOLHAPUR.

Area.—2,855 sq. miles. Population.—9,13,131.

Revenue.—33,06,090 rupees.

The State of Kolhapur is bounded on the north by the river Warna, which separates it from the British District of Satara; on the north-east by the river Krishna, separating it from Sangli, Miraj, and Kurundwad; on the east and south by the District of Belgaum; and on the west by the Sahyadri mountains, which divide it from Sawantwari on the south-west and Ratnagiri on the west.

The rulers of Kolhapur trace their descent from the younger branch of the renowned house of the most illustrious Shivaji, the founder of the Maratha Empire in the Deccan. The elder stock was represented by those Maratha princes, who occupied the throne of Satara. In 1848 that principality was annexed to the British Crown, its last king having died without offspring. The bards of Rajasthan endeavour to ascribe Rajput ancestry to Shivaji. Ajaya Sinh, who was reigning at Chitod in Mewad in the latter part of the thirteenth, and beginning of the fourteenth centuries, had two sons. The Rana had waged war against one Moonj, whom he defeated and overthrew. Not satisfied with it, the Rana exhorted his sons to pursue Moonj and bring him his head, saying that if they did not do so, they were not his, but bastard, sons. The two sons of the Rana had not the courage to undertake the perilous task, but his nephew Hamir accepted the challenge, and pursuing Moonj, brought back his severed head. The enraged ruler showered upon the heads of his sons so many degrading taunts and opprobrious epithets that one of them, driven to desperation, committed suicide, while the other fled to Dungarpur. Sajan Sinh, thirteenth in descent from him, left Dungarpur, and proceeding towards the Deccan, accepted service at the court of Bijapur. He was given an influential post in the state, and the king, pleased with his meritorious services, conferred upon him the district of Mudhol and 84 villages, with the honorific title of 'Raja.' Of the four sons of Sajan Sinh, Sayaji was the youngest. He had a son, named Bhonsaji, whose descendants still go by the name of Bhonsles. This Bhonsaji had ten sons, of whom the eldest was the father of Sahaji. He espoused the cause of the Mahomedan rulers of Ahmednager and Bijapur, and on their behalf fought, about 1634, many a battle with the Mughal hosts. His son, Shivaji, of immortal fame, was born in 1627. On the death of his father, Shivaji inherited the paternal estate, and was given the command of a detachment of troops in

the service of the Mussalman Shah of Bijapur. He enhanced the influence of the Marathas in the Deccan by the proper exercise of the innumerable qualities with which he was endowed. Intrigue, dissimulation, a high sense of reverence for the Aryan religion, bordering on to bigotry, courage and fortitude distinguished this hero above all his associates. He with his followers mostly resided in mountain retreats, whence issuing at intervals, he made frequent inroads upon and laid waste the adjacent territories. His light cavalry consisted mainly of peasants, who left their sickle and ploughshare for sword and matchlock. Thousands of villagers flocked to his camp and formed the main body of his predatory hosts. They fell upon their foe, all the sudden, and retreated, loaded with rich booty. They levied tribute ^{which was paid} the petty chiefs in the neighbourhood. The rustic soldiers ^{with the} booty brought home by them, and the short ^{horses} snatched off and on from their constant plundering raids went in revelling and feasting at their mountain fastnesses. Shivaji treacherously stabbed Afzul khan, the chief grandee of Bijapur, in a friendly embrace, in the year 1659, and falling upon his army, destroyed it to a man. In 1664 he assumed the title of 'Maharaja,' and struck coins in his name. He also assisted the Mughal troops of the Emperor Aurangzeb in a contest with the Mahomedan king of Bijapur in 1665. He was inveigled in a trap laid out for him by the Emperor in 1666, and kept under surveillance at the Imperial capital. He, however, contrived to escape, and flying to the Deccan, raised the standard of revolt within the Emperor's realms. He seriously crippled the power of the central government in the Deccan, and at last, in 1674, he was crowned King at Raegadh with unprecedented pomp and pageant.

Maharaja Shivaji breathed his last at Raegadh, at the age of 53, on the 5th of April 1680, leaving behind him a son, Shambhaji, who ascended the *gadi*. He and his eldest son, Shahu, were seized by the order of the Emperor Aurangzeb in the year 1694. Shambhaji was cruelly murdered, while Shahu was kept under restraint in charge of one of the Emperor's daughters. She changed his birth name Shivaji, and gave him the significant appellation of 'Shahu' (thief). Owing to the incarceration of Shahu, the Maratha *gadi* was occupied, in 1695, by Raja Rama, the second son of Shambhaji. He, however, died in June 1698, leaving behind him two sons, Shivaji and Shambhaji. Tarabai was the mother of the elder son, while Rajesbai was the mother of the younger. Raja-Ram was succeeded by Shivaji, who, proving insane, was, in 1703, de-

posed by his mother Tarabai, who carried on the administration in her name till 1707. The Emperor Alamgir expired in 1707, and Shahu, now released from restraint, straight repaired to Raegadh to assume charge of the regal office. Tarabai offered him a strong resistance, and Shahu, failing in his attempt, took up his abode at Satara in 1708. Shivaji the insane, dying in 1712, his half brother, Shambhaji, wrested the reins of government from the hands of the ambitious Tarabai. Shahu was the uncle of this new sovereign. Each of them now set forth his claims to the paternal throne as the lineal descendant of the great Shivaji, and the contest for succession between the two rival claimants long remained undecided. Every thing was left in *status quo* till the end of 1730. At last Shahu, obtaining the assistance of his relations, marched against Shambhaji, and vanquished him in a battle. Shambhaji, that fallen, acknowledged the supremacy of his uncle, Shahu, as the sovereign of the whole Maratha kingdom, including the state of Kolhapur, and its subordinate districts, but retained in his possession Kolhapur and the outlying villages. Shahu ascended the hereditary throne at Raegadh, while Shambhaji set up a separate *Raj* at Kolhapur. It was from this date that the compact Maratha Government was divided into two main principalities. Shahu removed his capital from Raegadh to Satara. In the war of succession Shahu was materially supported by a Brahman officer, named Balaji Vishwanatha, and the king, now securely seated on his throne, rewarded his services by conferring upon him the high office of the Peshwa.

The influence of the Peshwas commenced to be on the ascendant from the time of Shahu Maharaj. On Shahu's death in 1748, Rama Raja, the son of Shivaji II. was placed on the throne by the all powerful Peshwa, Balaji Baji Rao II. who had already established an independent Government at Poona, leaving in the hands of the *roi faineant* a small portion of his vast dominions. The sovereign was delegated with the mere formal function of presenting the new Peshwa with the robe of investiture. Rama Raja was succeeded by Shahu II. on the throne of Satara. Baji Rao, the last of the Peshwas, seized the capital in 1801, and dethroning Shahu, placed him and his two sons, Bala Saheb (Pratap Sinh) and Appa Saheb, in confinement. The unfortunate monarch died in prison. When the power of the Peshwa was overthrown, and Poona wrested from the hands of Baji Rao by the British Government in 1818, Bala Saheb was released and placed on his paternal *gadi* at Satara, with only a portion of his estate restored

to him. In 1837, the Paramount Power, suspecting him of disloyalty to the Crown, deposed him, and seated his brother, Appa Saheb, on the *gadi*. On Appa Saheb's dying without issue in 1848, the British Government annexed Satara to their dominions, awarding an annual pension of 50,000 rupees to Raja Ram, the adopted son of Appa Saheb. Shivaji, thus a lineal descendant of one of the Ranas of Mewad, founded a superb kingdom in the south of the Peninsula, which at last came to an end owing to the misgovernment of his descendants. The present Maharaja of Kolhapur represents the younger branch of the family of the renowned founder of the Maratha Empire.

In 1760, Shambhaji, the founder of the Kolhapur *gadi*, dying without issue, his widow adopted one Shivaji of the house of Khanwata, the tenth branch of the Bhonsle family, which, as mentioned above, derived its name from Bhonsaji. Shivaji at the time of his accession was but a minor, and the sole administration was carried on by the Queen-Dowager. She was however as heartless as she was daring. She freely permitted her subjects to carry on plunders both by sea and land. These raids extended to neighbouring domains, while the piratic excursions, for the most part, consisted in plundering British ships sailing from the harbour of Bombay. The English Government, with a view to put a stop to such bold piracy, invested and reduced, in 1765, the stronghold of Malwan in the Kolhapur territory. The Queen-Regent immediately agreed to enter into a treaty with the English, and to put down piracy in accordance with their wishes. The Rani also consented to pay to the English the sum of 7,50,000 rupees for defraying the charges of their recent expedition, and also permitted the English to build commercial factories in the sea-coast towns within the limits of Kolhapur. Besides these the English merchants were granted free permits to bring and sell, within the Kolhapur territories, English-made cloth, which was further exempted from all customs duties becoming due on its exportation from Kolhapur and its surrounding districts. The total extirpation of piracy, and the conduct of Government in strict conformity with the dictates of the Paramount Power were made the ground work of this treaty. It was after the conclusion of the above mentioned peace that the stronghold of Malwan was restored to the chief of Kolhapur.

These stipulations were, however, honoured more in the breach than in the observance. The land and sea plunders continued unabated till the death of the Queen-Regent in 1772. Shivaji assumed the reins of

Government in his hands, but his subjects, that had hitherto been allowed a free indulgence in marauding excursions, disobeying his prohibitory orders, continued to infest the surrounding country, and lay waste rich tracts of land. The impotent monarch found himself surrounded by foes on all sides. The Peshwa marched upon Kolhapur, and subjugated a large portion of his dominions then held by the scion of the Patwardhan house. The whole State was rotten to the core, and it fell an easy prey to the ambition of the neighbouring chiefs. The Peshwa, however latterly ran to its rescue and delivered it from the grip of these voracious wolves.

Shivaji now directed his arms against the adjoining state of Savant-wadi. The contest lasted for 23 years, resulting in the ruin of both the contending states. Bloodshed, plunder and rapine became the order of the day. The English, to prevent the total destruction of the rival powers, once more marched against Kolhapur in 1792. Shivaji affixed his sign-manual to a deed, by which the English were authorized to raise factories at Malwan and Kolhapur, and were exempted from all dues levied within the realms. The State of Kolhapur exhibited all the symptoms of a speedy decay, and was only saved by the timely intervention of the English, who had now built factories and well-nigh settled within its domains.

In October 1812 there arose a quarrel between Kolhapur and Nipani, and the English Government was once more compelled to interfere. These two native states would surely have perished but for such friendly intercession on the part of the British Government, who then held in their hands the balance of power in the country. The chief of Kolhapur was compelled to cede to the English the fortress of Malwan, as well as to consent to carry on the Government under the direct supervision of English officials. Shivaji Rao died in the same year (1812) and was succeeded by his eldest son Shambhaji II.

Shambhaji was popularly known by the name of Aba Saheb. During his reign Baji Rao, the last of the Peshwas, was dethroned, and his territories annexed to the British Empire in the year 1818. In the struggle between the English and the Peshwa, Shambhaji espoused the cause of the former against his brother-chief of Poona. He thus secured the complete confidence of the Paramount Power. In recognition of his friendship he was granted the districts of Chikoli and Menoli. The administration of Kolhapur showed signs of steady progress and improvement during the reign of Shambhaji.

Of the several alienations made by the preceding Rajas of Kolhapur, Shambhaji now determined upon seizing a certain *jagir*, bestowed upon a lady of the Mohite house, named Saejibai. A certain land-lord of that family repaired to Kolhapur to avenge the wrong aimed at his house, and to threaten the Maharaja into abandoning his ambitious design. He entered the royal palace in the month of July 1821, and while the Maharaja was lying asleep in his bed he was shot by the assassin. The deceased Maharaja had a son, who unfortunately died the very next year, in 1822. The succession next devolved upon Shahaji alias Bava Saheb, the second son of Raja Shivaji. The new chief did not seem much displeased with the land-lord, who had so brutally murdered his elder brother. Shahaji was an imbecile, oppressive, avaricious and extravagant ruler. He was also surrounded by equally bad and ill-chosen advisers. In 1824 a terrible revolt broke out at Kitur, a small village in the Belgam district. The rebels mustered strong, and carried on their operations so far and wide, that if prompt means had not been adopted to put down the revolt in its incipient stage, they would have even seized Belgam. A general rumour was soon afloat throughout the Deccan that the English were engaged in a deadly war with the independent ruler of Burmah. The war with the Burmese and the rising at Kitur prepared the mind of the senseless king of Kolhapur, worked up by his evil advisers, to defy the authority of the English, and take up arms against them. Shahaji soon left his capital at the head of 5000 foot, 1000 horse, and seven guns. He continued to march forward, under the pretext of going against Savantwadi, the hereditary rival of Kolhapur. The English authorities dissuaded him from doing so, and even volunteered to settle all differences between the two states; but Shahaji gave them no countenance. The Maharaja lay encamped behind the fortress of Kagal with a view to reduce it and take possession of the whole estate. The *Jagirdar* of Kagal, Hindu Rao, was related to Sindhia, who had conferred that estate with the fortress upon the deceased father of Hindu Rao. Shahaji, unmindful of that circumstance, besieged the castle and stormed it, and then directly proceeded towards the boundaries of Satara. The object of this attack was mainly to conquer these domains, and to place the ruling chief Partap Sinh (Bava Saheb), who represented the senior branch of his house, under his restraint. The English had no other course left them save a speedy interference on behalf of the chief of Satara. The time was so critical that even a moment's delay was calculated to seriously

impair the influence of the British Authority through-out the vast continent of India, and it was with a view to evade that catastrophe that the English officers immediately adopted prompt measures to put a stop to the aggressions of Shahaji. In 1825, a party of English troops marched against Kolhapur. Shahaji, destitute of all courage, surrendered himself to the English, and showed his willingness to agree to any terms dictated by them. The terms of the new agreement were :—

(1). That the Raja of Kolhapur should not interfere with the internal affairs of any of the other native states.

(2). That the fort and estate of Kagal should be restored to Hindu Rao.

(3). That he should at once decrease the number of his troops.

(4). That he should not harbour, within his domains, any of the insurgent chiefs or outlaws.

After a few days Shahaji proceeded to Poona, and applied to the Bombay Government that although he had agreed to the above stipulations, he was no longer prepared to abide by them, and that he should be excused from carrying them out *in toto*. The Government of course replied that no attention could be paid to his memorial, and Shahaji was forced to return to Kolhapur disappointed. On his way back he plundered several villages, though he represented to the British Officials that he had not stirred out of Poona. The English Government expressed their disapproval of his conduct, and declared that Shahaji was no longer in his senses, but was suffering from mental aberration.

Shahaji, after his return to Kolapur, instead of decreasing his forces, as agreed upon, increased their number. Not only did he harass the surrounding landholders, owing fealty to the British *Raj*, but he was equally illiberal in his conduct towards the other petty chiefs in his neighbourhood. The English troops again marched against Kolhapur. This time, too, the weak monarch fell at the feet of his invaders, and acceded to several stipulations dictated by them. He bound himself not to keep in his employ more than 800 foot and 400 horse. He was, however, permitted to garrison the fortresses within his domains, in the usual way. Several villages, which were conferred upon the brother of Shahaji, for his good and loyal conduct, but which were subsequently resumed by him without any justifying cause whatsoever in 1817, were now restored to him. Similarly he was compelled to surrender to the neighbouring

chiefs all villages belonging to them, which he had misappropriated. It was also expressly provided that he should not assert his supremacy over them, nor threaten them with any retaliatory measures, without first obtaining the sanction of the British Government. He was also made to pay from his coffers Rs. 147,948 by way of compensation to those who had more or less suffered by his misdeeds. The appointment of the Dewan was placed in the hands of the British Government, and it was so arranged that their nominee could not be removed by the Raja without their previous sanction. The state of Kolhapur was made to bear the expenses of maintaining a British contingent, to be stationed at the fort of Gonalgad.

These terms were at last settled. The fort of Gonalgad was surrendered to the English, and the native garrison removed. The Maharaja renounced all his claims to that stronghold. It was in the reign of Shahaji that Pratap Sinh, alias Bala Saheb, of Satara was accused of disloyalty, and dethroned in 1837. His brother, Appa Saheb (Shahaji) was next seated on the *gadi* of Satara. Raja Shahaji of Kolhapur expired on the 29th day of November 1838. He was succeeded by his minor son, Shivaji. During his minority, a Regency Council was appointed to carry on the administration. It consisted of four members, of whom one was Shivaji's mother, and his aunt, and the other two were the leading Sardars of the realm. These incongruous elements did not pull on well together for a long time. Meanwhile Shivaji's aunt, Tarabai, began to devise schemes for the purpose of appropriating to herself the entire conduct of Government; and she finally succeeded in assuming to herself all the functions of a Dewan.

The English Government, too, set their seal of approval on the new arrangement. Tarabai is known in the annals of Kolhapur by the popular name of 'Dewan Saheb.' For three years she carried on the affairs of Government with characteristic oppression and tyranny. A general rising was looming in the horizon, and would have inevitably burst out, had she continued in her position any longer. Her relations with the English were, in the commencement of her career, of a very amicable character; but the extreme indulgence exhibited by the Paramount Power had a very mischievous effect upon her mind. She was ultimately removed from the Council of Regency, and one, Daji Krishna Pandit, was appointed in her stead, who assumed the reins of Government in his hands. He incurred the displeasure of Tarabai and her partisans owing to his strenuous efforts

for removing the maladministration of the late 'Dewan Sahab,' and for introducing important reforms in the different departments of the State. The spirit of discontent, which was hitherto smouldering, broke out into a flame in 1844. It soon spread itself in all parts adjoining Kolhapur. The general supervision of the Kolhapur administration rested with the English Government, who, with their characteristic promptness, subdued the rising. The citadels within the territory of Kolhapur were all dismantled and demolished. The Killedars were disbanded, and a general reduction in the number of troops was speedily effected. The English, on the other hand, increased the number of their forces in these realms, and saddled the state treasury with all the expenses they had incurred in suppressing the revolt. While the English were predominant at Kolhapur, Appa Sahab of Satara died childless in 1848, and his state was annexed to the British Crown. Raja Ram, the adopted son of Appa Sahab, was granted an annual pension of 50,000 rupees. Thus terminated the elder branch of that illustrious house founded by the immortal Shivaji.

In 1862 on Raja Shivaji Rao's attaining the age of majority, the sole administration of Kolhapur was entrusted to his care. At the time of his accession he affixed his signature to a fresh treaty with the English, by which he consented to carry on his Government in strict conformity with the wishes of the British Government. Before that during the troublous times of 1857, Shivaji Rao had also agreed to co-operate with the English, and remain friendly with them, but expressed his doubt that his brother, Chimna Sahab, might join the insurgent bands. He expressed his inability to keep him under control, nor did he stand security for him; and he requested the English to make their arrangements with him separately.

Shivaji Rao was married to Khashibai, the daughter of Shrimant Ganpat Rao Maharaj, the Gackwad of Baroda.

Maharaja Shivaji Rao died on 4th August 1866. He had no male issue, but before his death he had adopted one of his nearest kinsmen, Nagoji Rao Patankar, as his son and heir. He ascended the *gadi* at the age of 16, assuming the name of Raja Ram. He was endued with rare intelligence and courage. He boldly undertook, in 1869, a voyage to Europe. He was however cut off during his tour, in the very prime of his life, at Florence* in Italy in 1870.

*Florence was the capital of Italy from 1865 to 1870. It is the birth place of Amerigo Vespucci, who first explored the New World, which is styled, after him, America. It is a handsome city, situated on the banks of the river Arno.

When the sad news of the untimely demise of this promising prince, Raja Ram, reached Kolhapur by a telegram, the whole royal family, together with his subjects, was steeped in profound sorrow. Another boy was soon adopted, and seated on the *gadi*, with the name of Shivaji III. During his minority the administration was, as before, carried on by means of a Regency Council, with the British Political Agent at its head. The young Chief also began to receive general training under the auspices of the new Council. When he attained the age of discretion in 1881, the intriguing officers, loath to part with the regal powers vested in their hands, complained to the Supreme Government that the youthful prince was suffering from mental derangement. These intriguers even went so far in their wicked designs as not to allow the unfortunate prince to see his mother, Radhabai. He was treated by them as a confirmed lunatic, and was at once removed to Mahabaleshwar for change of place and climate, urging that it was the only remedy calculated to produce some salutary effect upon his brain. After the Mahabaleshwar season was over, it was arranged to send him to Poona and keep him there under proper medical treatment. The Native Press at once raised their united voice of protest on behalf of the unfortunate victim, and urged the appointment of a committee of competent medical officers to ascertain whether the prince was really as insane as he was represented to be by his state officials. A medical commission was accordingly delegated with the task of examining the Raja, and giving their opinion as to the sanity or otherwise of their royal patient. They unanimously opined that he was not insane, nor were there any grounds for entertaining even the slightest fear on that score. The Maharaja then revealed to them the whole plot to which he had fallen a victim. He said that there were certain persons carrying great influence with the high officials in the State, who were always anxious to keep the power centred in the hands of their patrons. He had once brought that matter to the notice of the Political Agent, Colonel Parr, who, convinced of the truth of his complaint, had removed several of these intriguers from Kolhapur. He further stated that after the removal of Colonel Parr from Kolhapur, these villains had again resumed their old places of trust in the palace, and that he was exceedingly apprehensive of their foul machinations. The British Government thereupon immediately dismissed these persons from the palace, and publicly declared that the youthful Chief was perfectly competent to carry on the Government. It was also announced that he was not at all insane, but that some intriguers at the

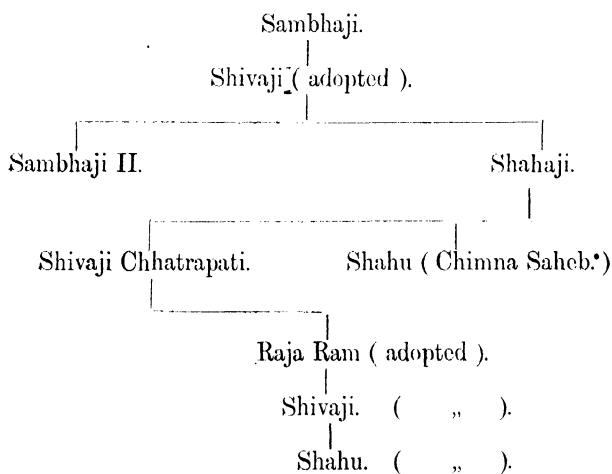
court of Kolhapur had meanly conspired to create in the mind of the British officials grave suspicions about his state of mind.

All these precautions, however, in the end went for nothing. The imaginary fear that these conspirators would one day take his life had obtained such a firm hold upon his weak brain that his mental tranquillity was seriously disturbed. He now evidently seemed to suffer from the effects of mental aberration, and the symptoms of madness went on increasing every day. In the month of November 1881, he was brought out of his palace for the purpose of removing him to a more salubrious place, but he returned to the capital within two hours. At that time, he presented a ghastly spectacle, his head bare, and his clothes besmeared with blood. When he was taken out of the palace to be removed to another place for change he was attended by an English officer. On the road the panic-stricken Maharaja clung steadfastly to the officer's neck, and a scuffle ensued. Dr. Joint at once reported the matter to the Bombay Government, and recommended the removal of the Queen Mother, Radhabai, and her 13 attendants. This, instead of producing a change for the better, increased the horror of the young prince. He began openly to denounce the English as his bitterest foes, and said that their action was actuated by motives of enmity and foul play. In the extreme agony of pain he also accused them of ambition and treachery, saying that the removal of his mother and her associates was but a stepping stone towards obtaining their ultimate goal of annexing Kolhapur to the British Crown. A public meeting of the citizens of Poona was held on 24th November 1881, under the presidency of the late Rao Bahadur Gopal Rao Hari Deshmukh, in which, by the unanimous voice of 4,000 Maratha inhabitants, it was resolved that a telegraphic memorial be submitted to the Government, requesting them to adopt prompt measures for remedying the mental disquietude of the Maharaja of Kolhapur. They recommended the removal of the two British officers, Cox and Greene, who were his companions, and prayed that competent and trustworthy native officers be appointed in their stead. They also strongly deprecated the action of the Government in removing from his presence Radhabai and her attendants, and requested that the mother of the unfortunate patient be allowed to tend him during his illness. Government perceived the cogency of the arguments set forth in the memorial, and ordered that the Maharaja be kept under the care of his mother. Under the fostering care of Radhabai and the skilful medical treatment of Dr. Buist the patient showed marked

signs of improvement. The ill-fated monarch was, however, not destined to recover from his malady, and he expired on the 25th of December 1883.

After the death of Maharaja Shivaji Rao, his widow, Anandibai, adopted Yeshwant Rao, the second son of Aba Saheb, the chief of Kagal, who was all the while acting as Regent of Kolhapur. He was formally installed on the *gadi*, under the title of Shahu Raja on 17th March, 1884. He is the present Maharaja of Kolhapur. During his minority the administration was conducted by a council of Regency, with the Political Agent as its President. It was only in April 1894, that the sole government was entrusted to H. H. Shahu Raja by H. E. Lord Harris, the Governor of Bombay, who performed the ceremony of investiture with great pomp and pageantry. His Highness The Maharaja of Kolhapur enjoys full civil and criminal powers and is entitled to a salute of 19 guns.

Genealogical tree.



(The present Maharaja).

Residence.—Kolhapur, Kolhapur Agency; Bombay Presidency.

CHAPTER III

STATES ENTITLED TO A SALUTE OF 17 GUNS.

MARWAD.

(Jodhpur).

Area.—30,568 sq. miles. Population.—2,305,109.

Revenue.—43,00,000 rupees.

The territory of Marwad is bounded on the north by Bikaner, on the north-east by Jaipur, on the east by Ajmere and the native states of Mewad and Kishengadh, on the south-east by Iranpura and Sirohi, on the south by the Palanpur Agency and the Runn of Cutch, on the west and north-west by the province of Sindh and the state of Jaisalmer. To the East of this principality lies the province of Mewad, a portion of which, though owing allegiance to Marwad, is under the direct control and management of the British Government.

The rulers of Marwad or Jodhpur are Rajputs of the Rathod sect, claiming their descent from Shri Ranchandraji, the celebrated king of Ayodhya, of the Solar race. The bardic chroniclers, in narrating the family history of the Rathod House, commence with Sunitra, fifty-fourth in descent from Lava, the elder son of Rama. The author of the history of Bharat Khanda (India) says that the Rathod branch of the Gupta family first acquired Kanouj in 470, slaying its monarch, Ajepal. Colonel Tod, the renowned author of the Annals of Rajasthan, says that it was Nenpal, who killed Ajepal and conquered Kanouj. Nenpal was succeeded by Bharat, who had thirteen sons, from whom sprang thirteen principal branches of the Rathod family. No authentic history of Marwad for the succeeding seven hundred years has been handed down to us.

In the closing years of the twelfth century Kanouj was ruled over by Jayachandra, the son of Vijayachandra Rathod. The innumerable troops

that followed his standard had obtained for him the sobriquet of '*Dal Pangalo*.' According to certain calculations his army consisted of 3,00,000 infantry, 200,000 archers, 80,000 men clad in steel armour, 30,000, covered with quilted mail (*Pakhar*) and a crowd of war-elephants. Jayachandra encountered his foes in many a field of battle and subjugated their extensive territories. His constant rivalry with his cousin, Prathuraj Chauhan, the last of the Hindu Sovereigns of Delhi, exhausted the resources of both Delhi and Kanouj and ultimately brought about their downfall. Shahabuddin Ghori, the Sultan of Gizni, who had to return discomfited during his previous expeditions, met with a better fate in his last invasion on India in 1193. He succeeded in vanquishing Prathuraj, who was taken prisoner and carried to the land of the victors. Thus was the Hindu rule at Delhi brought to a sad termination by the family feuds between Jayachandra and Prathuraj. The Moslem conqueror then led his invincible band against the city of Kanouj and beleaguered its fortress. The brave Jayachandra, weakened as he was by a constant warfare with his cousin, manfully prepared himself to give battle to the Mahomedan invader, with the sad remnants of his once formidable soldiery. But the odds were fearfully against him and there was hardly any hope of success. The heroic Rajputs sacrificed their wives, daughters and every thing else that was dear to them in this world, by consigning them to fire. This ghastly tragedy being over, they bathed and put on the saffron robe. Flinging open the gates of the city, they flew to the battle-field, courting death at every stage of their fierce onslaught. Without forming themselves into a battle-array, they forth-with commenced their work of destruction as best suited their tactics. The carnage was dreadful; a great number of Mahomedan and almost all the Rajputs fell on the field, and pools of blood flowed knee-deep. Jayachandra Rathod found his last resting place in the holy water of the river Ganges, in which he was drowned while attempting to escape.

Seoji and Saitram, the two grand-sons of Jayachandra, roamed about as outlaws against the Mahomedan rule for eighteen years, when at last in 1212, they left Kanouj*, the land of their birth, attended by

* Kanouj was in days of old a large city, measuring 16 miles in length, in the middle of the 7th century. Shiladitya, who was then reigning there, had conquered several petty chiefs ruling over the neighbouring districts. Kanouj is now an ordinary town at the distance of a few miles from the Jasoda Railway Station. Jasoda is 58 miles to the north-west of Cawnpur.

only 200 Rajput followers. They first arrived at Kolumund, a town twenty miles to the west of Bikaner.* There Seoji married the sister of the reigning prince, a Rajput of the Solanki clan. After a short stay there, he proceeded on a pilgrimage to the holy shrine of Shri Krishna at Dwarka, where he slew Lakha Phulani. On his return home, he invited the Dabhi Rajputs of Mehwa to a banquet on the banks of the Luni, and slaughtered them in cold blood. Shortly after the perpetration of this treacherous act he succeeded in establishing the Rathod rule in Marwad, destroying the Debras of Sachor, the Sonigras of Jhalore, the Mohils of Ahint, the Sanklas of Sindhal and the Gohels of old Khergad.

Pali with its neighbouring districts was then held by the *Paliwal* Brahmans, who were constantly harassed by the Mairs and the Meenas. Against them the Brahmans sought the shelter of the valiant Seoji. The right hand of the chivalrous Rajput was ever ready to protect the Cow and the Brahman, and the Rathod, running to their rescue, put to the sword a large number of the Mair and Meena free-booters. The Brahmans further entreated him to take up his abode at Pali, with his clansmen, to protect them from any further molestation at the hands of their hereditary foes. To this he gave a willing consent and the Brahmans allotted to him a rich tract, where he settled with his associates. Within a few days of this settlement, Seoji, at the instance of his Solanki wife, destroyed the leading Brahman *jagirdars* and incorporated their possessions with his new estate. From that date he assumed the title of Rao and made Pali the principal seat of his new Government.

Seoji survived but a year the massacre of the innocent Brahmans and the transfer of his capital to Pali. He had, at the time of his death, three sons, Asothama, Soning and Ajmal, of whom the eldest, Asothama, succeeded him to the *gadi*. Soning conquered Idar, whose descendants are to this day reigning at Pol, a petty State in the Mahi Kantha Agency. Ajmal had two sons, Vaghaji and Vadhelji, of whom the former became the eponym of the Vaji and the latter of the Vadhel clans.

Asothama had eight sons, from whom originated eight different clans, viz. Doohar, Pasi, Khimpsao, Bhopsoo, Dhandul, Jaitmal, Bandur and Oohur, of which four, Doohar, Dandul, Jaitmal and Oohur are still in existence. Doohar succeeded Asothama. In an unsuccessful attempt to wrest Mandore from the Padihar Rajputs, Doohar lost his life. He left behind him seven sons, Raepal, Kiratpal, Behur, Pectul, Joogail, Daloo and

* This city at that time was not in existence.

Begur. Of these the eldest, Raepal, ascended the throne. He avenged the death of his father by slaying the Padihar chief of Mandore. Raepal had thirteen sons, whose descendants rapidly occupied and filled the regions of Marwad. Raepal was succeeded by his son, Kanhul, after whom came in succession Jalhun, Chando and Thido. The last of these added to his dominions the fertile district of Binmahal, hitherto held by the Sonigur Rajputs and made several other acquisitions from the Devdas and the other Balcchas.

Thido was succeeded by Silko. The descendants of his younger sons, who have acquired the cognomen of Silkawuts, are the present Bhumia land-holders in Mehwo and Rardurro. Silko was succeeded by Virum-Deo, who led an attack on the Jotyas of the north and fell in a deadly fight. His descendants are styled the Virmotis, while those of his younger brother, Vijo, the Vijawuts, who are to be found in large numbers at Saitroo, Sewanoh, and Daichoo.

Virum Deo was succeeded by Chando II. The numerical strength of the Rathods had by that time become so great throughout the province, and their brilliant exploits had brought them into such prominence that they now began to essay higher flights than they had hitherto attempted. Chando assaulted Mandore at the head of his Rathod clansmen and slaying the Padihar prince, took possession of his ancient capital. The seat of the Rathod Government was then removed from Pali to Mandore. He then attacked the Imperial Governor stationed at Nagore, and conquered it from him. He also stormed Nandole and placed detachments of troops at both these places.

Chando had fourteen sons, Rinnul, Sutto, Randhir, Irinkowal, Punjo, Bhim, Kana, Ujo, Ram Deo, Vijo, Sesmal, Vagh, Lumbo and Sivraj. In the feud between Irinkowal, the fourth son of the Rao, and the Bhatti chief of Poongul, Chando was slain at Nagore with one thousand brave Rajputs (1402). Chando had also one daughter, named Hansa Kunwari, who was married to Rana Lakha of Mewad. She bore him two sons, Mokul Sinh and the celebrated Kumbho. It was this alliance that led to Marwad's interference in the internal affairs of Mewad, resulting in such disastrous consequences to the two leading states in the Rajasthan.

Rinnul ascended the throne of Marwad after the demise of Chando. With the latter's death in 1402 the Rathods lost Nagore. Rinnul was the first to enforce equality of weights and measures through-

out his dominions. In a treacherous attempt to seize the Mewad throne Rinnul was slain. He left behind him twenty four sons, of whom the eldest, Jodha, succeeded him to the *gadi*.

Jodha conquered Sojot in 1455, and as advised by a holy Jogi, laid the foundation of the city of Jodhpur in the year 1459. (Samwat 1515, month of Jyeshtha). He in 1461 transferred his capital from Mandore to Jodhpur. So numerous was the progeny of these Rathod chiefs that the whole territory of Marwad was parcelled out amongst them, and they were compelled to 'conquer fresh fields in which to sow the Rathod seed.' Santal, the eldest son of Rao Jodha, born of a Bundi princess, established himself in the domains of the Bhatti chief (Jaisalmer) and erected a fortification, about five miles from Pokarn, which he named after him Santalmer. He was killed in an encounter with the Khan of the Sahraes. His remains were burnt at the village of Kusmoh, where a canopy was erected in his honor. The seven wives of Santal immolated themselves on the funeral pyre and joined their lord in heaven. Dudoh, the fourth son of Rao Jodha, established himself on the plains of Mairta. His descendants are called the Meratias, who have acquired the reputation of being the best swordsmen in the whole of Marwad. The celebrated poetess, Mirabai, married to Kumbho Rana of Mewad, was the daughter of this prince, Dudoh. Vika, the sixth son of Jodha, followed his uncle, Kandul, in the north, and conquering new territories, established an independent principality, which is at this day known by the name of Bikaner.

Jodha breathed his last in 1489 at the age of 61 years. He and his valiant sons considerably enhanced the extent of their dominions. After his death Suraj Mal ascended the Maroo throne. Shir Shah, the Sur Emperor of Delhi, invaded Marwad and besieged the citadel of Jodhpur. Till then the valiant Rathods had no occasion to measure their strength with the Imperial troops. In 1516, a vagrant band of Pathans made a sudden attack on the village of Pipar, where the Teej fair was held, and carried away 140 virgins of the Maroo land. No sooner was the intelligence of this dishonour conveyed to the ears of Rao Suraj Mal than he rode his steed, and placing himself at the head of such of the chieftains as were then by his side, hotly pursued the fugitive Pathans. He soon overtook them and put many of them to the sword and redeemed the honour of the Maroo maids at the cost of his own life.

Rao Suraj Mal had five sons, of whom the eldest, Bhagwandas, had died

during his father's life-time and the succession next devolved upon Suraja's grandson, Gang Das. The second son, Udo, had 11 sons, whose descendants are known as Udawats. From the third son, Sanga, originated the Sangawat clan; while the fourth son, Prayag, was the progenitor of the Priyagote branch. The fifth son, Viramdev, had a son, Naroo, who received divine honours as the Maroo Putra, (the Son of the Maroo land), whose image is still worshipped at Sojut. His descendants are called the Narawuts. Though Gang Das ascended the *gadi*, his right was contested by his uncle, Sanga, who called to his aid Daulat Khan Lodi. The descendants of Jodha were thus arrayed against one another in a civil strife. The Pathans commenced by opening negotiations for an amicable settlement on the basis of an equal partition of Marwad among the several claimants. Rao Gang Das not acceding to those terms, it was decided to adopt hostile measures. In the contest, Sanga was slain and his co-adjutor, Daulat Khan, took to his heels, defeated and disgraced. When Rana Sang of Mewad marshalled his troops against the Mughal host under the command of Emperor Babar on the field of Biana in 1528, Rao Gang Das sent his army in support of the Rajput cause. Indigenous minstrels still sing the praises of the Marwadi troopers, who showed conspicuous bravery during the fight. In this memorable battle Raemal, the grand son of Gang Das, Khartoe and Ratno, the chieftains of Mairtea, and many other valiant Rajputs lost their lives.

Rao Gang Das, dying in 1532, was succeeded by Maldev. At the time of his accession the resources of Marwad had been considerably developed. He conquered all the fortresses held by Lodi governors, situated between Marwad and the Imperial domains. He placed a detachment of garrison at Amber, and recovered the districts of Nagore and Ajmere from the Mahomedans, who had wrested them from the hands of his ancestors. He captured the villages of Jhalore, Sewanoh, and Bhadratoon from the Sindhi holders in 1540. He also destroyed the power and independence of the descendant of Vika, then reigning supreme at Bikaner. He subdued his cousin chieftains ruling independently over the regions on the banks of the Luni and Mehwo, and reduced them to the position of feudatory vassals. He conquered Serohi with its adjacent territories and erected several new fortifications in Marwad. It was during Rao Maldev's reign that the fort and palace at Jodhpur were constructed. The districts of Sojut, Sambhar, Mairtea, Khatah, Bednore, Ladnu, Raepur, Bhadratoon, Nagore, Sewanoh, Lohgadh, Jykulgadh, Bikaner, Binnahal, Pokurn, Barnair, Kusoli,

Revasa, Jajawar, Jhalore, Baoli, Mular, Nandole, Filodi, Sanchore, Didwana, Chatsu, Lowaan, Mulaarna, Devda, Fattehpur, Umarsara, Khawar, Baniapur Tonk, Toda, Ajmere, Jehanpur and Udepur in Sekhawati (of the Parmars) were at that time under the sway of the proud lord of Marwad. The feudal holdings in Marwad were never before allotted according to some fixed principles of law or usage. As mentioned above the Rathods multiplied themselves with amazing rapidity, and the land of Maroo was apportioned between them in innumerable small holdings. Maldeo saw the necessity of preventing such a rapid dismemberment of the State caused by petty divisions and sub-divisions, and with a view to regulate the mode of inheritance he classified his vassals into different grades, and fixed the allotment of estates in accordance with their ranks. It was peremptorily laid down that there should be no further alienations or sub-divisions of the estates (Pattas) in the particular families sprung from the sons of Jodha and Rimmul. These restrictions proved so salutary that they have remained unaltered even to the present day.

Shir Shah, who succeeded in tearing the Imperial diadem off the brow of Humayun, invaded Marwad at the head of 80,000 troops. Maldeo opposed him with his valiant band of 12,000 Rathods and a fierce contest ensued, in which many of the brave Rajputs sacrificed their lives on the altar of patriotism. Shir Shah was, however, compelled to raise the siege and extricate himself from the dangerous situation by flying back to Delhi. The daring usurper died shortly after, and his successors proving inefficient, Humayun was able to redeem from them the Imperial *Masnad*. On the death of Humayun in 1556, the destinies of a vast empire were entrusted to the care of a young prince, aged thirteen years, who in the end turned out to be the greatest of the Indian Monarchs, who ever held the sceptre of royalty. Emperor Akbar, perceiving, with rare sagacity, that the ever increasing influence of the Rajput potentates would be a constant menace to the yet incipient Mughal rule, led an invasion against Marwad in 1561. He first captured Malkot or Maŕta and then Nagore, both of which he subsequently made over to Raja Rae Sinh of Bikaner. It was from that date that Bikaner threw off the yoke of the parent State of Marwad. Emperor Akbar sent a mandate to Raja Rae Sinh for the conquest of Marwad, and he invaded it at the head of his troops. A strong resistance was offered by Rao Maldeo and his sons, but finding himself shut up within the walls of Jodhpur, the Rathod chief was compelled to surrender himself to the Mughal Sovereign. He sent the

heir-apparent, Udaya Sinh, to the Emperor's camp, where in token of respect he was made Commander of 1,000 cavaliers.

Maldeo died in 1573. He had twelve sons, (1) Rae Sinh, who was ostracised from Marwad ; (2) Raemal, who was slain on the field of Beeana in 1528 (3) Udaya Sinh, who ascended the Marwad throne after Maldeo's demise ; (4) Chandrasen and (5) Ashkaran, whose descendants are still numerous at Junia ; (6) Gopal Das and (7) Prathiraj, whose descendants are at Jhalore. (8) Ratansi, whose progeny is to be found at Bhadratoon ; (9) Bhairaj, whose offsprings are to be met with at Ahadi, and of the rest we are in possession of no information whatsoever.

Udaya Sinh was installed on the throne of Marwad in the year 1573. The Emperor, Akbar, ennobled him with the title of the 'Maharaja', a proud distinction still borne by his descendants. He drew upon himself the indignation and opprobrium of his co-religionists by bestowing the hand of his sister Jodhba, on the Emperor. With the aid of the Imperial troops he chastised the feudal lords, who had espoused the cause of his brother, Chandrasen. Akbar restored to Udaya Sinh all his possessions, excepting Ajmere, that he had conquered from the late Rao Maldeo. In addition he made over to his new ally and kinsman rich and fertile districts in the province of Malwa. Udaya Sinh utilized his influence over the Emperor in curtailing the power of his feudal vassals, some of whose possessions he ordered to be sequestered.

Udaya Sinh died in the year 1595. He had no less than 27 wives, yet he had cast a longing eye on a fair Brahmin girl, whose father was the worshipper of Aga-mata at Bhilasa. When the latter came to know of the wicked intentions of the Maharaja, he began to fear that either the girl would be tempted to marry him or would be carried away by force to the royal seraglio. To save her from eternal pollution, he dug a sacrificial pit (*kund*) and slaying her, cut her up into small fragments and consigned them to the flames. While doing this horrible deed he pronounced the following imprecation ' Oh Raja ! either in three *Pohors* (nine hours), three days, or three years my vengeance will descend on thy sinful head.' Saying this, he terminated his own life by throwing himself into the sacrificial pit. When the tale of this ghastly tragedy was related to the king, he was overtaken by remorse, and Udaya Sinh expired within the time predicted by the dying Brahmin. This Raja is still held in hateful memory by his subjects on account of his wicked deeds and cruel intentions, and his death is attributed to the curse of the wronged Brahmin.

Udaya Sinh left behind him a large family, consisting of 17 sons and 17 daughters. His eldest son, Sur Sinh, succeeded him to the *gaḍi*. His third son, Bhagwan Das, had a son, named Govind Das, who built the fortress of Govindgad. Mahesh Das, the son of Dalpat Das, the seventh son of Udaya Sinh, had a son, named Ratna, who founded the chiefdom of Ratlain in Malwa. Kishan Das, the ninth son, became the founder of Kishan-gadh. Kishan Das had a son, named Bharnal, whose grand-son, Rup Sinh, founded Rupangadh. Manpur was populated by Man Sinh, the son of Udaya Sinh's tenth son, Jaswat Sinh; while the eleventh son, Keshav Das, founded the town of Pishangadh. Of the remaining sons no account is to be found in the pages of the annals of Marwad.

Sur Sinh was engaged in the siege of Lahore, where he had proceeded in 1592, at the head of the Imperial army. When he heard the news of his father's demise, he immediately returned to Jodhpur and assumed the sovereign powers. He turned out a valiant and a benevolent Raja. While he was yet heir-apparent to the Marwad throne, Emperor Akber rewarded his meritorious services by conferring on him the title of 'Savai Raja.' The Grand-Monarch deputed him to proceed to Gujarat to humble the pride of Sultan Muzaffar III, whom he defeated in a pitched battle near Dhandhuka. He made a present to his Royal Master of the rich booty obtained from 17,000 villages, plundered by him after the defeat of the Sultan. He kept to himself a *crore* of Dribs (Mussalman coin) and with that extended the walls of Jodhpur. After the subjugation of Gujarat the Emperor sent Sur Sinh to the Deccan with an army of 13,000 horse, 20 elephants, and 10 guns. Gaining the banks of the Nerbada, he attacked Amar Balena, the Chauhan prince, and slaying him, incorporated his dominions with those of Marwad. In return of this valuable service the Emperor gave him a *Nobut* (kettle-drum) and granted to him in perpetuity the province of Dhar.

The Great Emperor Akbar died in 1605, and was succeeded by Selim, who assumed the dignified title of Jehangir Shah. Gaj Sinh, the son of Sur Sinh, was entrusted, by the new Monarch, with the task of capturing Jhalore, then held by a Pathan Mussalman, named Gajri Khan, the ancestor of the present Diwan of Palanpur. He laid siege to that fortress, scaled the walls by means of ladders, and putting to sword 7,000 war-like Pathans, that formed the defensive garrison, planted the Imperial flag on the turret of the citadel.

Sur Sinh received from the Mughal Sovereigns no less than sixteen

grants on different occasions for his daring exploits and valuable services. He embellished the city of Jodhpur by erecting several grand edifices and constructing many reservoirs. The extensive lake, called the "Sur Sagar," was excavated by him, which has always been of great use to his subjects.

Sur Sinh died in the year 1620 in the Deccan, where he had been despatched at the head of an Imperial army for the conquest of that province. Of the six sons and seven daughters, the eldest, Gaj Sinh, succeeded him to the throne. Jehangir bestowed on him the viceroyalty of the Deccan. In 1638 a serious rising broke out in Gujarat, and Gaj Sinh was sent to suppress it. In the endeavour to put down the rebels Gaj Sinh lost his life. He had two sons, Amar Sinh* and Jaswat Sinh, of whom the elder was disinherited and declared incompetent to occupy the Marwad throne. After the death of Gaj Sinh, the succession devolved upon the second son, Jaswat Sinh.

While speaking of Jaswat Sinh the local chroniclers describe him as a sovereign unsurpassed in all princely virtues by his contemporaries. During his reign ignorance and darkness were dispelled from the Maroo land, while learning and arts were encouraged and patronised. Several works of note were published under his auspices. Dara, the son of Emperor Shah Jehan, appointed Jaswat Sinh as viceroy of Malwa, but giving up that place, he soon returned to Jodhpur. It was at this juncture that the Civil War of succession broke out among the sons of the infirm Shah Jehan, and Jaswat Sinh alternately espoused the cause of that faction, whose star was in the ascendant. During Aurangzeb's time he held Military Command in the Deccan, whence he was directed to proceed to Ahmedabad

*When Amar Sinh was disinherited, he put on a black dress, and mounting a black steed, abandoned his mother-country and repaired to Delhi to lodge his complaint before the Emperor. Shah Jehan made him Commander of the three thousand horse and conferred on him the estate of Nagore with the title of Rao. By his haughty demeanour he drew upon himself the displeasure of the Emperor. Once fuming with rage, he drew his sword and rushed upon the person of the Mughal Sovereign. The sword happened to strike against a pillar and was broken and the Emperor was saved. A scuffle ensued and Amar Sinh wounded and killed many of the Royal guards in their attempt to arrest him. At last he was killed by his assailants. The gate by which he had entered the palace is known even to-day by the name of 'Amar Sinh's gate'. From the time of Amar's death it was kept closed and was only opened in 1809 after the advent of the English rule. Amar's associates, Champawat and Kumpawat, bravely perished by his side and his wife, the daughter of the Rao of Bundi became Satti.

as viceroy of Gujarat. He smelt something wrong in the change, and in 1670 he returned to Jodhpur. The Emperor always stood in great dread of the valiant Rajput Prince, and was constantly devising schemes for his destruction. When fraud and treachery availed him not, he feigned friendship with Jaswat Sinh, and appointed him to the viceroyalty of Kabul. The confiding monarch went to Kabul with his family, entrusting the sole management of the State to his eldest son, Prathu Sinh. If the Marwadis had till then sustained the reputation of being 'the first swords' in India they were now placed face to face with the Afgans, who were in no way inferior to them. Immediately after Jaswat Sinh's arrival at Kabul, the people rose in a mass against his authority, which he had to redeem by his sword. While Jaswat Sinh was thus engaged in contending against the Kabulis, the Emperor summoned his son, Prathu Sinh, to Delhi. Feigning love and friendship, the unscrupulous monarch presented him with a superb dress of honour. Putting that apparel on, Prathu Sinh returned to his camp, where he expired within a short time of the royal interview. It is believed that the Prince died of the effects of poison mixed with the dress of honour. The sad tale of his death was conveyed to the pining father at Kabul, where he was already steeped in sorrow at the death of two of his other sons, Jagat Sinh and Dulat Tuman Sinh, who had accompanied him to Afganistan, and who fell victims to the inclement weather of the soil. The news of the death of the heir-apparent came upon him like a thunderbolt, and it is said that he never recovered from the intense grief he felt at the irreparable loss. Jaswat Sinh breathed his last at Kabul in 1679. As long as he was alive Aurangzeb passed many a sleepless night in anxiety lest the Rajput would one day usurp his Sovereignty, and the news of his death was but a Godsend to the Mughal Emperor. The wives and concubines of the deceased Maharaja, who had accompanied him to Kabul, expressed their determination of ascending the funeral pyre and follow their departed lord; but one of his wives, who was advanced seven months in pregnancy, was forcibly prevented by one of the late Raja's clansmen, Uda Kumpawut, from carrying out her determination. The rest were allowed to immolate themselves on the funeral pile. One Chandravati, who had stayed at Jodhpur, on hearing of her husband's death, also perished in the flames with the turban of her deceased lord in her lap. The wife, who was *enceinte*, gave birth to a son at Kabul, who was named Ajit Sinh. When the infant grew a few months old, the Rathod chieftains left Kabul and set out for Jodhpur, taking with them the infant prince, his unfortunate mother, the

princess and other retainers, who formed the retinue of the late Maharaja. Jaswat Sinh's dying wish was to entrust his posthumous son to the kind care of the Emperor, and with a view to carry out that behest the Rathods arrived at Delhi *en route* to Jodhpur. Before any appeal was made to the Emperor to take the infant under his protection, he peremptorily ordered the Rathods to give up the child to him. The wary Rajputs, growing suspicious of the Moslem's wicked intentions, made up their mind to leave Delhi without delivering their infant-monarch into the possession of their inveterate foe. While they were preparing themselves to carry out their bold resolve a party of Imperial troops surrounded their camp on all sides. Aware of the atrocious conduct of the Mughal Sovereign, the Rathod chieftains ingeniously contrived a way out of the impending peril. They placed their infant monarch in a basket of sweet-meats and confided him to the care of a poor needy Mussalman. They then shut up the widow and the daughters of the late Maharaja into a room, placing gun-powder and other combustible materials in it, and set it on fire. This being done, they furiously fell upon the besieging troops. In the scuffle almost all chieftains of note and many Rajputs were slain. Those who escaped the general destruction were a few Rajput soldiers and a valiant Rathod chief, named Durga Das, (A. D. 1680—Shravan Sud 7th Samvat. 1736). The faithful Mussalman, into whose hands the Rathods had entrusted their richest treasure,—the infant monarch, Ajit Sinh—hid himself in one of the caves at Mount Aboo. He was there joined by Durga Das and his Rajput companions. Ratan Sinh of Nagore had then obtained possession of Jodhpur, but he was repulsed by Durga Das, and the young Ajit Sinh was safely brought to the Rathod capital. The enraged Emperor Aurangzeb soon marched against Marwad in person at the head of a large army, and besieging Jodhpur, carried it by storm. He gave vent to his wrath by breaking the sacred Hindu idols and sticking them up in the steps of the Mussalman Mosque. He demolished Hindu temples and erected new mosques on their sites. The infant king, Ajit, and the Rathods fled from Jodhpur under the lead of Durga Das, and took shelter in the Aravalli range. They carried on plunders within the Mughal territories from their mountain retreat. Their co-religionists, the Mewadis, too, assisted them against their common foe. Enduring every conceivable hardship for no less than thirty years, these brave Rajputs exhibited to the world their traditional devotion and loyalty towards the ruling house. Posterity has not failed in awarding their mead of praise to Durga Das and his valiant associates, who sacrificed every-

thing in the service of their infant-lord. Colonel Tod, who has written his annals in a very appreciative spirit, acknowledges that it was with rare fortitude, patience, valour, and devotion that such a handful of Rathods could hold their own for so long a time against such a powerful monarch as Aurangzeb. Indu Singh of Nagore, though a claimant to the Jodhpur *gadi*, moved with a spirit of exalted patriotism, took up his sword for the preservation of his country's honour and faith, burying for a time his differences with the young chief. But it is to Durga Das that the highest praise is due. The brave Rajputani may well be proud of giving birth to a son, who spurned with disdain the offers made by the Emperor of giving him a command over 5,000 Imperial horse, together with a rich present of several *lakhs* of rupees; and remained to the last a steadfast adherent of Ajit Singh, without being entrapped in the snare laid out for him by the wily Aurangzeb.

At last the brave Durga Das and his companions bribed Akbar, the eldest son of Aurangzeb and won him over to their side. When Ajit Singh attained the age of 21 years in 1701, the Marwadis marched to Jodhpur and expelling the Mahomedan Governor, installed the youthful Maharaja on the ancestral throne. In 1703, Jodhpur was once more conquered by Ajam Shah when Ajit Singh took up his abode at Jhalore. It was in that year that a son was born to Ajit, by his Chauhan wife, who was named Abhaya Singh.

As soon as the intelligence of Aurangzeb's death in 1707, was conveyed to Jhalore, Ajit Singh with his clansmen marched to Jodhpur, and driving away the Mussalman usurpers, occupied the city. Not only did they redeem the several districts conquered by the Mahomedans, but they made fresh acquisitions from the Mughal domains. While the Rathods were thus engaged in retrieving their tarnished fame, Bahadur Shah arrived at Ajmere in 1708, and treacherously seizing the person of Ajit Singh, captured Jodhpur. The Emperor likewise seized Jaya Singh, the chief of (Jaipur). Bahadur Shah then marched towards the Deccan, taking with him these two influential Rajput princes as prisoners of war. When the Imperial troops gained the banks of the river Nerbada, the two Rajas contrived to effect their escape and flying to Mewad, took refuge at the court of Rana Amar Singh. After entertaining his guests for a few days, Amar Singh joined them with his own followers, and the combined army first marched to Jodhpur, where expelling the Mughal Governor, they reinstated Ajit Singh on the throne. After spending the monsoon at

the Rathod capital they went to Amber, where the Mughal Governor offered them a strong resistance, but in a contest the Saiyyad was killed and Jay Sinh was placed securely on the *gadi*.

Ajit Sinh was compelled to come to terms with the Emperor in the year 1710. In 1712 he was directed by the Emperor to proceed against Nahana, a Chieftain of the neighbouring wild tribes, who had rebelled against the central authority. Ajit Sinh marched against him and subduing him, returned to Jodhpur. Bahadur Shah died in 1712 and was succeeded by Jahandar Shah. He in 1713 conferred on Ajit Sinh the Viceroyalty of Gujarat. While making preparations to go to Gujarat Ajit Sinh heard the news of the Emperor's demise. Farruck Shiyyar was raised to the Imperial *masnad*, and the Rathod Chief instead of proceeding to Gujarat repaired to Delhi (1714). The new Emperor was a mere puppet, playing in the hands of the two Saiyyad brothers, Hussein and Abdalla, who had then become all-powerful throughout the Empire. Ajit Sinh sided with these two brothers and extorted from them such conditions as contributed to the increase of his power. In 1716 Ajit Sinh arrived in Gujarat, accompanied by his eldest son, Abhaya Sinh. They levied tribute from the principal Chiefs in the province and visiting the holy shrine at Dwarka, returned to Jodhpur. In 1718 Ajit Sinh went to Delhi, leaving his son, Abhaya Sinh, in charge of the state. He was then honoured by the Emperor with the command of 7,000 horse. He also received from the Mughal Sovereign a crown of Dams (a coin) and other costly presents. Ajit Sinh was as brave as he was wise and resourceful. He conquered extensive regions and subjugated those who reared their heads against him. The local bards assign to Ajit Sinh the foremost place among the contemporary chiefs of the Rajasthan. He is said to have made and unmade seven successive Emperors of Delhi. In 1719, he it was, who brought about the accession of Mahomed Shah. For seven days and nights his word was the law at the Imperial capital, and the administration was carried on in his name. He remained at Delhi only a short time after the accession of Mahamed Shah and returned to Jodhpur, leaving his son Abhaya Sinh at Delhi, making him commander of 5,000 horse. Though Ajit Sinh acquired by his deeds immortal fame, yet in the faithful mirror of History he loses half his lustre by the shabby treatment he gave to his saviour and benefactor, Durgadas Rathod, who played such a conspicuous part in the earliest stage of Ajit's life, and who for long continued to be his wisest counsellor. He was in his declining life deprived of his estate

of Gangani, which was conferred on a menial favourite. By his action Ajit Sinh justified the popular adage 'Put not your trust in princes.'

Durgadas had acquired so wide spread a renown for his gallantry and unswerving devotion that after his dismissal from Marwad he was received and sheltered by the Rana of Mewad with the greatest cordiality. It is said that the Rana paid Durgadas for his personal expenditure Rs. 500 every day.

Ajit Sinh expired at Jodhpur in the year 1724, leaving behind him five sons, Abhaya Sinh, Vakhat Sinh, Anand Sinh, Rae Sinh and Kishore Sinh. Popular reports do not ascribe to Ajit Sinh a natural death. Once Mahomed Shah was taking a stroll on the waters of the river Jumna in a light ferry in the company of prince Abhaya Sinh. When they gained the middle of the river the Emperor held out a threat to the Rajput that he would throw him overboard unless he consented to his proposal. The confounded prince readily consenting, the Emperor replied 'There is only one way of deliverance. Write to your brother, Vakhat Sinh, at Jodhpur to murder your aged father, the brave Ajit Sinh.' The degenerate prince in order to avert the impending peril wrote there and then a letter to his brother, desiring him to kill their father, promising to obtain for him in return, the estate of Nagore. The ill-fated letter reaching Vakhat Sinh's hands, the parricide entered the royal apartment at the dead of night and slew the reposing Raja. Next morning the report of the foul deed being spread far and wide, crowds of sorrowing citizens flocked to the palace and the remains of Ajit Sinh were carried to Mandore—the family crematorium of the Rathod house, where they were consigned to flames. The Ranis immolated themselves on the funeral pyre with their departed lord, while the younger sons, Anand Sinh, Rae Sinh and Kishore Sinh, apprehensive of incurring Abhaya Sinh's wrath, left the capital and wandering about as out-laws for a few years, finally settled at Idar.

No sooner did the intelligence of Ajit Sinh's death reach Delhi than the Emperor in person decorated Abhaya Sinh with a jewelled sword and a superb crown and gave him other rich presents. Abhaya then repaired to Jodhpur and was installed on the *gadi* with due ceremony. He received from the Emperor the grant of the districts of Nagore and Idar. Soon

° 'Put not your faith in Kings, musical instruments and monkeys' is the Gujarati proverb.

after Abhaya Sinh's accession he was compelled to lead his army against Nagore, which was then held by the descendants of the ancient Kings of Mandore. The Rathod Chief besieged Nagore, and capturing it, gave it over to his brother, Vakhat Sinh. He in 1726 subdued the rebellious tribes living on the frontiers of Marwad, and in 1728 proceeded to Delhi. It was at that juncture that the news of Sher Buland Khan's rebellion in Gujarat reached the ears of the Emperor. The rebel was the Mughal Viceroy of that province, who throwing off all allegiance to the central Government, had assumed independent charge of Gujarat. The Emperor conferred on Abhaya Sinh a *sanad* (Mandate), appointing him Viceroy of Ajmere and Gujarat. He then set out from Delhi for Ajmere and leaving his own officer there, returned. He there raised a large army and in the summer of 1730 marched towards Gujarat. From Sidhpur he sent an emissary to Sher Buland Khan, requiring him to surrender his person to the Emperor and give over all the royal paraphernalia usurped by him. To these overtures he returned a curt reply, saying that he himself was the Monarch of Gujarat and that he had staked his head for Ahmedabad. Abhaya Sinh then proceeded to Ahmedabad and besieging the citadel from behind, kept up a heavy bombardment for three consecutive days. Sher Buland Khan lost his son, and when the third day was drawing to its close he received a severe wound which removed him from the thick of the battle. His followers, however, without being discouraged continued to fight. The next day, seeing that fortune was against him, Sher Buland Khan surrendered himself to the Rajput Chief, who sent him on to Agra. (1731 A. D.)

After this victory Abhaya Sinh captured Baroda from Pilaji Rao Gaekwad and appointed Babi * Mahomed Bahadur (Sher Khan), as its Governor. In 1732 he invited Pilaji to Dakor under the pretext of opening negotiations with him, and there treacherously caused his death. When the news of Pilaji's foul murder reached his eldest son, Damaji Rao, who was then at Songadh he marched towards Gujarat and led his troops upto the very gates of Jodhpur. Abhaya Sinh, keeping an army of 1700 men at Ahmedabad for the preservation of Gujarat, speedily returned to Jodhpur for the protection of his hereditary dominions of Marwad. Abhaya Sinh is said to have then brought with him from Gujarat four crores of rupees, 1400 guns and other rich *insignia* of royalty. During the decline of the Mughal rule

* He is the ancestor of the Nawabs of Junagadh and Bahasinor.

Abhaya Sinh was shrewd enough to reap a rich harvest for himself which materially helped him in strengthening and equipping his forts in Marwad.

The Chief of Bikaner once happened to offend the dignity of Maharaja Abhaya Sinh, who marching upon Bikaner, besieged its citadel. While negotiations were being carried on for the raising of the siege, seeds of dissension were sown between Amber and Marwad. Jey Sinh, the ruling Chief of Amber, called to his aid contingents from neighbouring princes, and assuming command over a *lack* of troops, proceeded towards Marwad. Abhaya Sinh, when he heard of this invasion, raised this siege of Bikaner and hastened to Jodhpur. Jey Sinh with his innumerable following was all the while lying encamped near the village of Gungwani. Vakhat Sinh, the brother of Abhaya Sinh, who was then reigning at Nagore and who was then not on amicable terms with his brother, actuated by a nobler sentiment of preserving unsullied the reputation of his forefathers, proceeded to Gungwani at the head of his 5000 valiant Rajputs. Like a lion bounding upon a flock of sheep, he fell upon the enemy's army and dispersed it like chaff before the wind in all directions. The followers of Vakhat Sinh fought with all the fury of desperadoes and only 60 survived to recount to posterity the tale of their extraordinary *fete* of valour. Of the one *lack* of Jey Sinh's men numbers were mowed down and no estimate has yet been formed of his loss. This sharp conflict contributed to increase the bitterness between Amber and Marwad, but the Rana of Mewad intervened and brought about a reconciliation between the contending Chiefs.

Abhaya Sinh died in the year 1750 and was succeeded by Ram Sinh. According to immemorial usage the Tiluk (mark on the forehead) of royalty ought to have been affixed by his uncle, Vakhat Sinh of Nagore, but he delegated that function to one of his maids of honour, which offended the youthful monarch. He invaded Nagore and a long series of battles ensued between the uncle and the nephew, in which many Rajputs lost their lives, and Ram Sinh was ultimately obliged to seek shelter at the court of Jeypur. Vakhat Sinh assumed the reins of Government at Jodhpur, but his nephew constantly harassed him by repeated attacks and onslaughts on his dominions. Ram Sinh at last besought the assistance of Sindhia, and with the help of his troops invaded Jodhpur to drive away his uncle from Marwad. All the chieftains and feudatory princes of Marwad had already owned allegiance to Vakhat Sinh and they took up their weapons in the defence of their state against this Maratha aggression.

They fell unawares upon the body of Sindhia's troops and completely routed it. After a few days while Vakhat Sinh was encamped in one of the defiles in the vicinage of Ajmere, his niece, the sister of Ram Sinh, who was married to the reigning prince of Jeypur, visited his camp to pay filial respects to her uncle, and under the guise of devotion and love treacherously poisoned the confiding * Chief.

Vakhat Sinh was after his death succeeded by his son, Vijaya Sinh. His claim to the *gadi* obtained due recognition from the Emperor of Delhi, as well as the feudatory Rathod chiefs of Marwad, but Ram Sinh was eagerly watching for an opportunity to press his claims to the throne. He opened negotiations with the Marathas and a strong army under the command of Jayapa Sindhia marched towards Jodhpur. A small detachment was also sent from Jeypur in support of Ram Sinh's cause. The Rathod chivalry was arrayed on the side of Vijaya Sinh, while Ram Sinh was backed up by the Marathas and the prince of Aniber. Swords on both sides leapt from their scabbards and drank the blood of many a Rajput. A fierce conflict ensued between the contending armies, when suddenly a rumour was circulated abroad that Vijaya Sinh was killed in the scuffle. This threw the Marwadi troops into confusion and the brave Rajputs took to their heels. Vijaya Sinh was fighting at the head of one of the detachments, not knowing the reason of such a sudden rout, fled for his life.

Ram Sinh by resorting to such foul trick was enabled to snatch an easy victory over his antagonist and he now began to capture one by one the fortresses and strongholds of Marwad. At that juncture Jayapa was removed from the political arena by the hand of death. Ram Sinh had bartered the very freedom of Marwad for the co-operation of the Maratha troops, to whose general, Jayapa, he had promised the grant of the fort of Ajmere and a fourth share in the revenues of Marwad. The Rathod Chieftains of Ram Sinh's court once rose against him *en masse*, enraged by his haughty and impulsive disposition, and the Maharaja escaped condign punishment only by a speedy flight to Jeypur. Ram Sinh died there in the year 1773.

* According to a bardic legend when the wives of Ajit Sinh ascended the funeral pyre they pronounced the following imprecation :—

“ The bones of the murderer (Vakhat Sinh) of our lord shall be burnt outside the Maroo land * This curse was literally carried out and Vakhat Sinh was perhaps put in mind of it when he fell a victim to the perfidy of his niece.

The death of Ram Sinh instead of restoring order and tranquillity enhanced the general unrest and disturbance prevailing throughout the Marwa land. The Maratha freebooters, who were put in possession of the fort of Ajmere, began to overrun the neighbouring territories and extort money from the inoffensive ryots. This state of insecurity crippled the trade of Marwad and told heavily on the financial condition of the State. The Rathod Puttawats turned round, and this cleared the way for the fugitive Vijaya Sinh and his associate, the Chandawut Sardar, Devi Sinh, to effect their entry into the city of Jodhpur and obtain possession of the *gadi*. A few days after, a quarrel broke out between Sabal Sinh, the son of Devi Sinh, and the other Chiefs of Jodhpur, which resulted in the death of Sabal Sinh. The leading nobles were appeased and taken into the confidence of their new sovereign. With the help of these brave vassals Vijaya Sinh succeeded in subduing the turbulent tribes dwelling on the frontiers of Marwad. He also waged war with the Sardars of Sindh and captured Amarkot and several other possessions.

Marwad began once more to enjoy the felicity of peace and plenty, though the tranquillity then established was oft disturbed by the inroads of Maratha freebooters. The incursions of these Maratha bands were strongly resisted in 1787 by the Rajputs under the command of Vijaya Sinh of Marwad, Pratap Sinh of Jeypur and other chiefs of the Rajasthan. A fierce battle was fought near Tauga in which the Rajputs fell furiously upon the well-disciplined battalions of Sindhia's troops, under the command of General De Boigne, and killed the gunners at their posts. Sindhia's troops fled in confusion and Ajmere fell into the hands of Vijaya Sinh. The brave and warlike army of Maharaja Sindhia, not discomfited by the last reverse, rallied together and defeated the Rajputs on the plains of Patan and Meratia in the year 1791 A. D. The Marathas recaptured Ajmere and obtained a booty of 60 *lacks* of rupees in hard cash.

During Vijaya Sinh's life-time a dispute arose as to who should succeed him to the *gadi* after his demise. He had six legitimate sons and also grand-sons, still he was in favour of appointing his natural son, Man Sinh, as his sole heir and successor. For the protection of that boy he sent him to the stronghold of Jhalore. This act of injustice and indignity offended the noble feelings of the leading aristocracy, who rose against Vijaya Sinh with the determination of deposing him and placing his eldest

son, Jalam Sinh, on the ancestral throne. The first object of their rage was the mother of Man Sinh, whom they slew and they created several disturbances. They began to make encroachments on Vijaya Sinh's dominions, which materially diminished the territorial extent of Marwad. At such a crisis Vijaya Sinh died in 1794 A. D.

At the time of Vijaya Sinh's death his grand-son, Bhim Sinh, who was at Jaisulmer, galloped to Jodhpur within 22 hours and seized the vacant *gadi*. The rightful claimant, Jalam Sinh, was weak and irresolute, and he at once fled to Udepur, where he was provided with a rich appanage by Rana Bhim Sinh. Jalam Sinh died shortly after at Udepur.

When Bhim Sinh usurped the Marwad throne he had two uncles, Sher Sinh and Sardar Sinh. The former had his eyes put out by his orders, and he died dashing his head in despair against the walls of his prison. The other was also mercilessly put to death. There remained now only one man in the way of Bhim Sinh, and he was Man Sinh, the adopted son of Vijaya Sinh's favourite mistress. Man Sinh took refuge within the walls of Jhalore and Bhim Sinh made several unsuccessful attempts to apprehend him. At last Bhim Sinh died in 1804, and Man Sinh was invited to Jodhpur by the leading nobles of the court and installed on the *gadi*. It was in Bhim Sinh's reign, on the 27th day of February 1804 that Marwad and the British power were for the first time united together in a bond of alliance, which was, however, discontinued for a time owing to the non-intervention policy of Lord Cornwallis. Man Sinh was as brave as he was cruel and treacherous. He fought with Juggut Sinh of Jeypur for the hand of the virgin, Krishna, the paragon of female beauty, decorating the apartments of the Rana's palace at Udepur. It was in these struggles that Amir Khan, the notorious Pindari chieftain, alternately lent his aid to Juggut Sinh and Man Sinh and brought ruin and disgrace on both Jeypur and Marwad. The fertile tracts were rendered desolate and the innocent ryots were reduced to the verge of starvation. Diabolical plots and conspiracies were set on foot to dethrone Man Sinh and place Dhokal Sinh, the posthumous son of the late Bhim Sinh, on the *gadi*. Man Sinh began to harass these Puttawut chiefs by sequestering their estates, which drove them to espouse the cause of Dhokal Sinh. They left Marwad and took refuge at the courts of Mewad, Jeypur, Bundi, Kota and Bikaner. Even there they did not remain quiet but occasionally attacked the regions of Marwad. At such a critical juncture Man Sinh,

feigning madness, made over the reins of Government to his eldest son, Chhatra Sinh. A treaty of alliance was concluded between the Paramount Power and the chief of Marwad on 6th January 1818, on almost the same terms as those settled with the Rana of Mewad. It was agreed to pay to the British Exchequer an annual tribute of Rs. 108,000 While the stipulations agreed upon awaited only the signatures of the contracting parties, Raja Chhatra Sinh died all of a sudden. Man Sinh, throwing off his mask of insanity, assumed the reins of Government in his own hands. Being left without a son by the untimely death of Chhatra Sinh, he sent a word of request to his kinsman, Gambhir Sinh, the reigning chief of Idar, to give him in adoption his son, who would inherit the *gadi* of Marwad; but as Gambhir Sinh had then only one son, he thankfully declined the offer.

Man Sinh next turned his attention to those of his vassals, who leaving his court, had resorted to other States and were making inroads upon Marwad territory. Some of them he killed, while some were thrown into prison. The blood of the surviving chieftains boiled with rage and their incursions on Maroo land grew more frequent than ever, which cost the lives of several people on both sides, while they, with their faithful following, overran the rich tracts of Marwad, and at the same time pressed their claims to the notice of the British Government and requested them to interfere in the matter and settle their disputes with the Maharaja of Jodhpur. The Supreme Government, though it refused to intervene directly, advised Man Sinh to define the rights and privileges of his feudal vassals, and bring about an amicable settlement with those whose ancestors had shed their blood in the cause of their country. Man was, however, untractable and unwilling to budge an inch from the offensive attitude he had adopted towards these nobles. They summoned Dhokal Sinh and obtaining the assistance of the chief of Jeypur, made preparations to march towards Jodhpur. They made a sudden onslaught on the capital and deposing Man Sinh, placed their protege, Dhokal Sinh, on the *gadi*. He was, however, compelled to vacate it within a short time of his accession.

This circumstance served to add fuel to the fire, and the relations between Raja Man Sinh and his nobles grew irreconcilable. At last the British Government intervened, and a detachment of troops under the command of Colonel Sutherland marched towards Marwad in 1839 A. D.

A reconciliation based upon certain preliminary condition was then

brought about between Man Sinh and his recalcitrant vassals. The Raja then obtained the co-operation of his Sirdars in peacefully carrying on the Government of Marwad.

Raja Man Sinh died in 1843, without issue, and Dhokal Sinh, the alleged posthumous son of Bhim Sinh, urged his claims to the *gadi*. A short account of the birth and the subsequent actions of Dhokal Sinh would not be deemed out of place here. As narrated above, Bhim Sinh died in 1804 and was succeeded by Man Sinh. Sawai Sinh, the Puttawat Thakoro of Pokurn, one of the principal vassals of the lord of Maroo, who bore personal grudge towards Man, headed the opposition formed against the adopted son of a concubine. Summoning the other Rathod Sirdars to his side, Sawai Sinh explained to them that one of the wives of the late Bhim Sinh was pregnant and if she in course of time was delivered of a son, he should be declared the sovereign of Marwad. The other vassals assenting, they all repaired to Jodhpur and taking the widow, who was *enceinte* under their protection, they held a Darbar (assembly of nobles) and requested Man Sinh, the successor of Bhim Sinh, to attend it. After much deliberation it was resolved that Man Sinh should relinquish his claims to the *gadi* if a son were born to the widow and that he should receive for his maintenance the fiefs of Nagore and Sewanon. The Rani gave birth to a son, who was named Dhokal Sinh. The infant was speedily despatched to Pokurn under the protection of the gallant Sawai Sinh. For two years Sawai Sinh kept the fact of his birth in strict secrecy, and when after that period it was divulged to his partisan vassals, they all flocked to the palace to insist upon Man Sinh to adhere to and act upto his former pledge. Man Sinh replied that he would only resign his regal authority in his favour if he was convinced that Dhokal Sinh was not a supposititious child. The mother of Dhokal Sinh, who was then at Jodhpur, swayed by fear or some other consideration, declared that she was not delivered of any son.

Sawai Sinh then removed the boy from Pokurn to Khetri and thence taking him to Jaipur, placed him in the lap of the widow of the late Bhim Sinh, who was the daughter of the monarch of Amber. Juggut Sinh, who was then reigning at Jaipur, recognised the child as the legitimate son of Bhim Sinh and honoured him as the sovereign lord of Marwad. Not only did he accord him a cordial reception at his court but enlisting the sympathies of the chief of Bikaner and the other nobles, who were arrayed against Man Sinh, he formed a strong confederacy to support

Dhokal's cause and roused the demon of internecine war in the Marooland. They besieged Jodhpur and dethroning Man, placed Dhokal Sinh on the *gadi*. Man Sinh summoned to his aid the notorious Pindhari leader, Amir Khan, and with his help, succeeded in driving away Dhokal Sinh within five months of his accession and took possession of the Marwad throne. The Rathod Sirdars, who sided with Dhokal Sinh, were dispersed and Sawai Sinh safely conducted Dhokal Sinh to Nagore. Amir Khan followed him thither and resorting to foul play, murdered Sawai Sinh. Dhokal Sinh, deprived of his chief mainstay, fled to some other place of security and a curtain was for a time dropped upon the adventures of the unlucky Dhokal Sinh.

As mentioned above, Man Sinh died in 1843, and Dhokal Sinh once more came forward to press his claims to the *gadi*. The British Government, however, rejected his claims for reasons that have not yet transpired. It is believed that the grave suspicion attending his birth weighed heavily with the British Tribunal.

The question of selecting a successor to Man Sinh was left by the the Supreme Government to the decision of the widowed Ranis, Puttawat Chiefs and the leading officers of the State. Their choice fell upon Takhat Sinh, the chief of Ahmadnagar, a petty State in the Mahi Kantha Agency in Gujarat, who was more nearly related to the Ruling House of Jodhpur than the other claimants. He was summoned to Jodhpur and duly installed on the *gadi* in 1843. He had a son, named Jaswat Sinh, who accompanied his father to his new capital. This left the hereditary *gadi* of Ahmadnagar vacant and Takhat Sinh, at the time of his departure for Marwad, urged that the succession to his ancestral estate be guaranteed to his heirs by the British Government. The chief of Idar also applied to the Paramount Power to order the annexation of Ahmadnagar with its territories to his own domains. After a mature consideration the British Government in 1848 decided that Ahmadnagar and its subject territories should be incorporated with Idar. This portion is still owned by the Maharaja of Idar.

*Takhat Sinh was the son of Karan Sinh, the great-grandson of Anand Sinh, who was the founder of the chiefdom of Idar and who was the third son of the renowned Ajit Sinh of Marwad. When he was called upon to sway the destinies of the Marwadi ryots, it was generally expected that he would turn out a capable and benevolent ruler, but all those expectations were in the end falsified. He was not able to evolve order out of the chaos then prevailing throughout Marwad, and could not root out the many

disorders and distempers that brought discredit on the rule of his predecessors. Himself an inordinate lover of pelf, he cared very little for the welfare of his subjects. Without caring to deal out justice evenly between the rich and the poor, he always tried to please the former at the cost of the voiceless innocents. At last in 1867, the fief-holders of Marwad resolved to rise into rebellion and drive away Takhat Sinh, but afraid of British interference, they could not give effect to their desperate resolve. On the death of the Thakore of Ghanerao, who left behind him a younger brother to inherit the estate, the Raja of Jodhpur sent an army against that village and captured it in order to assign it in appanage to his own younger son. The enraged Aristocracy respectfully brought this act of his injustice to the notice of the British authorities, by whom Takhat Sinh was asked to give over the estate to the rightful claimant. The self-sufficient Raja disregarded the orders of the Supreme Government, which compelled them to actively interfere in the matter and bring about an amicable settlement between the disputants.

Maharaja Takhat Sinh did yeoman service to the cause of the British rule in India during the troublous days of the Sepoy Mutiny in 1857, and won the highest honors from the ruling race. He was, however, lowered much in the estimation of His Excellency the Earl of Mayo, Viceroy and Governor General of India, when he raised a question of precedence* over the Rana of Udaipur at a Darbar held at Ajmere in

o When His Excellency The Earl of Mayo visited Rajputana in 1871, he held a Darbar at Ajmere. There among other chiefs the Rana of Mewad and the Maharaja of Marwad were invited. According to past antecedents it was decided that when the crowned heads of India assembled together in a public Darbar on occasions of State, the Rana of Udaipur should have a precedence over the prince of Jodhpur. When this arrangement was brought to the notice of Takhat Sinh he refused to attend the Darbar. The Raja was informed that the question of precedence had been settled after a very careful consideration and that it could not then be changed. But the self-willed Raja was inexorable. The expostulations of the Political Agent and Prince Jaswat Sinh were all in vain. He persistently refused to take his seat next to the Ranaji. The ceremonial function was put off for an hour, but when Takhat Sinh could not be brought round, the Viceroy allowed the seat to remain vacant and proceeded with the business of the day.

After the Royal Assemblage was over the Viceroy determined to make an example of him for his discourtesy towards the representative of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, and the next morning the Chief of Marwad was peremptorily ordered to leave the Camp of Ajmere with his retinue. All honours due to his rank and position were dispensed with at the time of his departure. No salute was fired from the battery and after some time

1871. He breathed his last in the month of February 1873, and was succeeded by the heir-apparent, Jaswat Sinhji, the late Maharaja of Marwad.

His Highness Maharaja Jaswat Sinh introduced many important reforms in the land-revenue, Police and other Departments of Administration and earned the reputation of being a wise, benevolent and capable ruler. He paid homage to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales at Calcutta on 23rd December 1875. He was also invited to attend the Grand Chapter of the Star of India held at the metropolis on January 1st 1876. The Maharaja was then ennobled by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales with the *insignia* of the Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India. He was also present at the Imperial Assemblage held at Delhi on 1st January 1877, under the presidency of His Excellency Lord Lytton, the then Viceroy of India, in honor of the assumption by Her Majesty Queen Victoria of the dignified title of the Empress of India. The customary salute of the Maharaja was raised from 17 to 19 guns.

There were several salt-producing tracts in Marwad of which the four principal ones were leased to the British Government by an agreement with the Maharaja signed in 1879. The chief conditions of the lease were that the British Government should annually pay to the Jodhpur Darbar a sum of Rs. 391,800, while the Maharaja on his part agreed to suppress all the Daribas (salt-tracts) with the exception of two within his territories. The British Government further indemnified the proprietors of the suppressed Daribas. The agreement further stipulated that the import or export of all salt, except that on which the British duty had been levied, should be summarily put a stop to, as well as all transit and export dues, hitherto levied on salt, should be abolished. For the purposes of local consumption the State is allowed to draw from these Daribas 225,000 maunds every year free of any duty.

The boundaries of the Jodhpur State and those of the neighbouring states are so blended together that for the detection and prevention of crimes it was thought expedient to introduce the provisions of the Extradition Act, which first came into operation in 1873, between the States of Patiala and Jaipur, and which was ten years later extended to Bikaner. It was resolved to diminish his salute from 19 to 17 guns. In order to shew his appreciation of the loyalty and devotion displayed by Prince Jaswat Sinh, His Excellency the Viceroy paid him a private visit after the Darbar was dissolved.

in its relations with Patiala, Jhind and Loharu. These provisions were now brought into force in Jodhpur, to regulate its relations with Jaipur and Bikaner.

The principality of Jodhpur is cut up into small fiefs, the holders of which exercise civil and criminal jurisdiction within the limits of their estates. It was in 1884 that the powers of these feudal lords were properly defined and regulated. Under that arrangement three distinct grades were formed and those placed in the highest grade were empowered to inflict sentence of imprisonment upto 6 months and fine upto Rs. 300, while in civil matters they were empowered to hear and dispose of suits to the extent of Rs. 1,000. All the civil and criminal courts in the State have since been completely reorganised. In revenue matters the practice of farming out land revenues of the districts to influential persons was discontinued. Intricate disputes of village borders have been definitely settled throughout the greater part of the State, and its boundaries with Mewad and Jaisahner have been defined and properly demarcated with a view to prevent all further disruption. The Maharaja has established an extensive Public Works Department, which has successfully carried out the extension of the Rajputana Malwa Railway within the Maharaja's dominions. For the conservancy of the forest a special department has recently been established there, under the supervision of competent officers.

In 1889 the Maharaja gave his assent to the scheme of constructing a Railway between Jodhpur and Bikaner at the joint expense of both the States.

In 1882-3 the Customs Department was put entirely on a new basis, and in 1890 the Maharaja liberally abolished all transit duties within his territories.

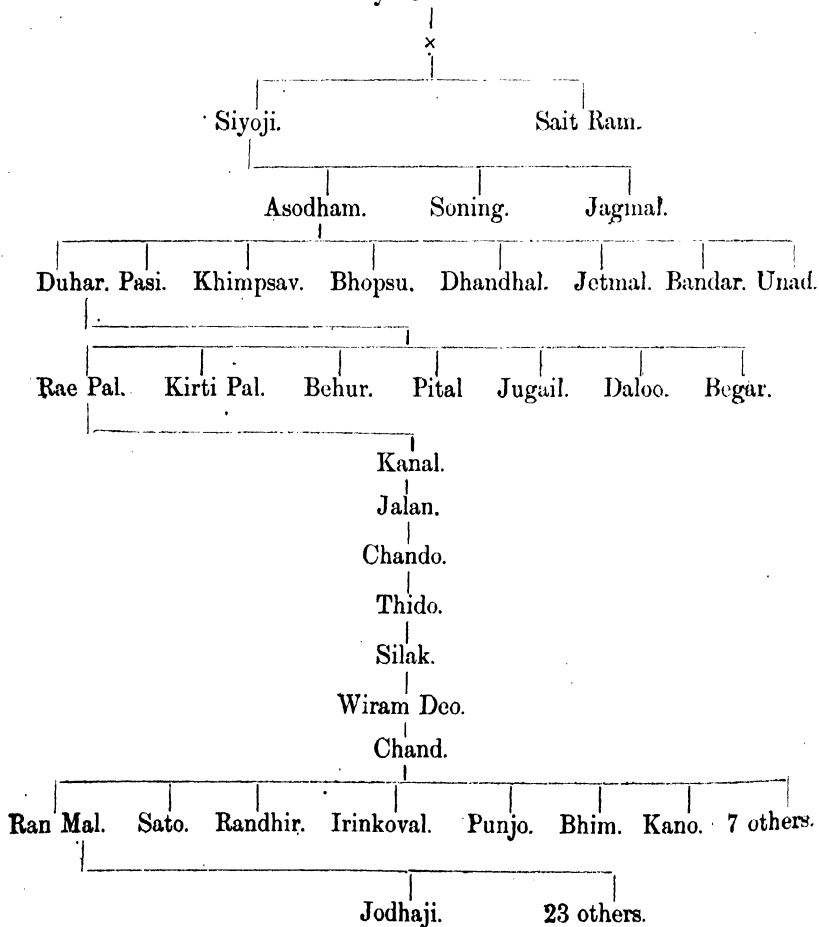
Upto 1884 the Maharaja employed his own couriers to carry letters within his dominions, but since then Government Post Offices have been opened in almost all the principal places, and the practice of employing couriers has been discontinued. Though the State in itself is entitled to a salute of 17 guns only, the British Government in appreciation of the princely virtues of the late Maharaja Jaswat Singh raised his personal salute from 17 to 21 guns. Maharajadhiraj Pratap Singh, the accomplished brother of the late Maharaja, was created a Knight Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India in 1886, and was further made an Honorary Lieutenant Colonel in the British Army on 21st June 1887

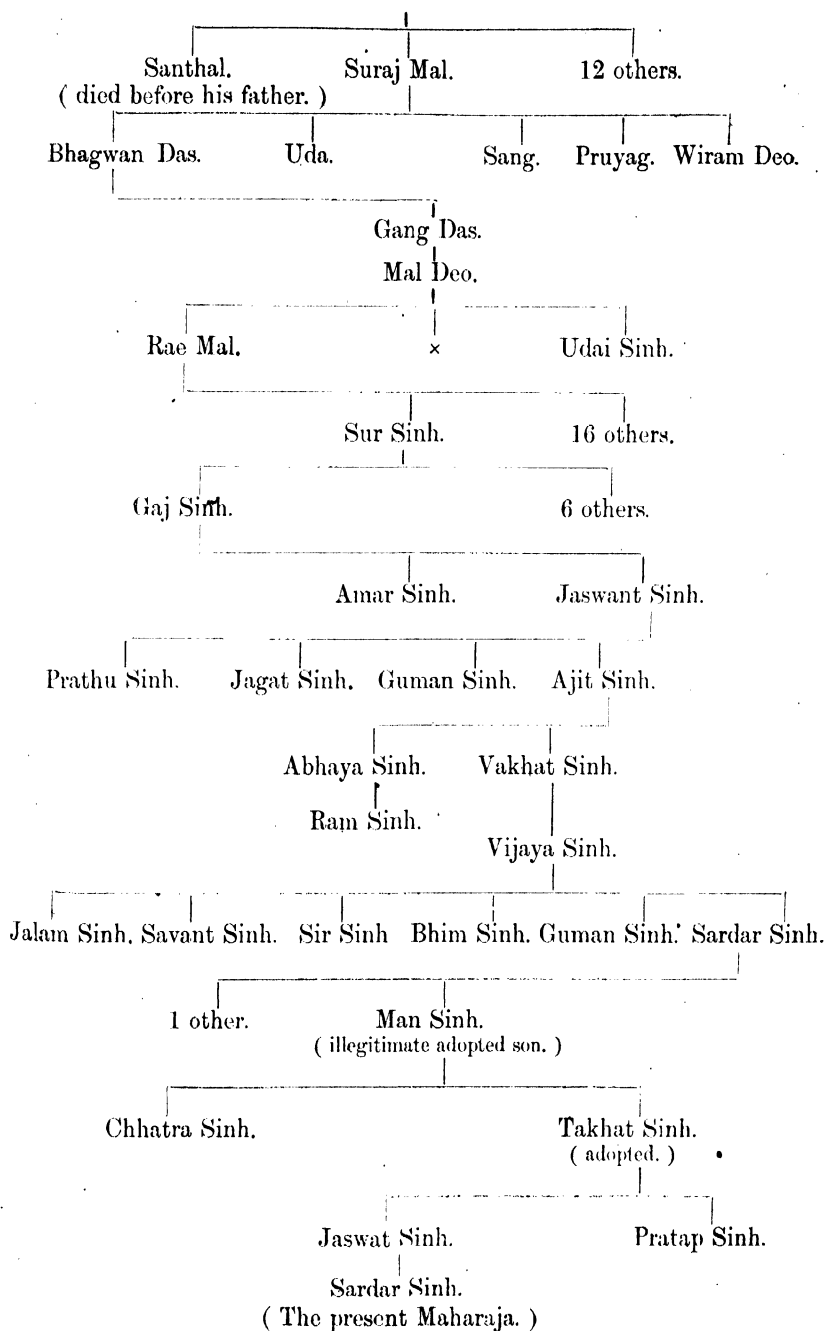
on the occasion of the Jubilee of the Glorious Reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, Empress of India.

Maharaja Jaswat Sinh expired on the 26th October 1895. His body was cremated with great honour, and in accordance with all the rites and ceremonies prescribed by the *Vedas* and the other Hindu *Dharma Shastras*. He was succeeded by his son, Sardar Sinh, the present Maharaja. Maharaja Sardar Sinh enjoys full civil and criminal powers in his State and is empowered to pass capital sentence on offenders guilty of murder and other grave crimes. His Highness the Maharaja of Jodhpur is entitled to a salute of 17 guns.

Genealogical tree:

Jaya Chandra.





Residence.—Jodhpur, Rajputana; Western India.

REWA.

Area.—13,000 sq. miles. Population.—15,03,176.

Revenue.—28,00,000 rupees.

This state is bounded on the north by the British Districts of Banda, Allahabad and Mirzapur in the North-western provinces; on the east by part of Mirzapur District and by native states in Chota Nagpur; on the south by the British Districts of Chhatisgarh, Mandla and Jabalpur, in the Central provinces; and on the west by Maihar, Nagode, Sohawal, and Kothi States in Baghel Khand.

For the ancient history of Rewa we have to take recourse to mythology, which says that the Earth, once being hard pressed by the Demons, went to Brahma, and begged of him to create a hero, that would deliver her from the dreadful oppression of the Rakshasas (demons). Brahma was then engaged in worshipping Surya (the Sun) and taking pity upon the prostrate Earth, he took a handful of water, and muttering some incantation, dashed it on the ground, and there sprang up an ideal hero (Kshatriya). He was forth-with ordered to repair to the mortal world and destroy the Asuras (demons). According to this legend, the hero was named Chalukya Deva, being born from the palm of Brahma, and his descendants assumed the family name, Suryavamshi or children of the Sun, as their progenitor was created by the rays of the sun. One Solunk Deo flourished in the line of Chalukya Deo, several degrees removed from him, and his descendants adopted the cognomen of Solankis. One of them Viradhawal had two sons, Vilgar Deo *alias* Vyaghra Deo and Shuka Deo. The descendants of the former came to be known as Vaghelas*. Thus

* About seven hundred years ago a prince of the illustrious family of the Shalunkya as reigned at Palghur, in Goojerat. He had already had one son, when the gods were pleased to send him a second. At the birth of the young prince, the oracles were consulted, according to custom; and great was the terror of the Rajah on learning that this child would one day be the cause of great wars and disturbances in India. At his command the infant was abandoned in a neighbouring forest infested by wild beasts. Some time afterwards, a holy Rishi, passing by Palghur and hearing of the circumstance, resolved to find out what had become of the body of the little prince. To his infinite surprise he discovered the child in a cavern, whither he had been carried by a tigress, who had nourished him with her milk. The king, learning the miraculous manner in which his son had been preserved, caused him to be brought back again to his Court, and gave him the name of Baghela, or son of the tigress. When he had attained his majority, the young prince, renouncing all his rights, abandoned his father's Court, accompanied by a

Vyaghra Deo was truly speaking the founder of this principality. This heroic chief was born in Gujarat, but in his youth, entrusting his government to his brother Shuka Deo, he went towards the east, with the avowed object of going on a pilgrimage. Visiting Kashi (Benares), Prayag (Allahabad), Gayaji and other sacred places, he proceeded to Chitrakot. The neighbouring territory was then under the sway of one Kanak Deo, who was blessed with only one fair daughter, Ratannati. He gave her in marriage to Vyaghra Deo, whose fame, as a prince of noble extraction and dauntless courage, had spread far and wide; and entrusting his kingdom to the care of his only heir, Vyaghra Deo, the old Kanak Deo retired to a holy shrine, and passed the remainder of his life in pious contemplation. Vyaghra Deo made it his permanent residence, and conquering the adjacent territories with the power of his arms, he enhanced the extent of his dominions. The first State that yielded to his all-conquering arms was governed by a monarch of the Raghu dynasty. It was, after its conquest, annexed to the parent State, and its ruler was imprisoned in the stronghold of Pathar Kachhar. The next person with whom the Tiger-king (Vyaghra Deo) waged an interminable war, was the lord of Lodhi, whose estate too was conquered and annexed to the main government. He afterwards extended his conquest to the districts situated on the Vindhya range, and subjugated all the surrounding chiefs. The territory over which he ruled was called Bhatha, but changing that name, he styled it Baghel Khand, and thus perpetuated the name of his warlike House. Vyaghra Deo had by his wife Ratannati five sons; Karan Deo, Kandhar Deo, Surat Deo, Sohag Deo and Sam Deo. The eldest, Karan Deo, inherited the throne of his father; Kandhar Deo was given Kasota with the title of Rao; Surat Deo returned to his ancestral home in Gujarat; Sohag Deo went to the Deccan; and Sam Deo obtained a fief in the east. Vyaghra Deo, when he first set out from Gujarat on a pilgrimage, had taken with him several persons of different castes and creeds, and their descendants are still found scattered throughout this State.

Vyaghra Deo was after his death succeeded by his son, Karan Deo, in 615. He married Padam Kunwar, the daughter of Somadatta, chief of Raipur in Mandala, and obtained in dowry the stronghold of Bandho-

few faithful followers, and after endless adventures and innumerable combats took possession of a vast kingdom, and established his capital at Bandogurh."

Louis Rousselet's *India and Its Native Princes*, new edition, 1882, p. 384.

garh. Attracted by the advantageous situation and natural strength of this fortress, Karan Deo removed his seat of government thither, and there built a gate, called after him Karanpamar, which exists even at the present day. The Kshatriya attendants who accompanied the senior Rani of Karan Deo came to be known by the name of 'Karchuli,' which is still borne by their descendants. Karan Deo was succeeded on the *gadi* by his son, Sohag Deo, who founded the town of Sohagpur, now to be seen in the vicinity of Allahabad. After him came his son, Sarang Deo, who became the founder of Sarangpur. He was succeeded by Vilas Deo, who was the founder of Vilaspur, a flourishing town in our own days. Bhimal Deo succeeded his father, Vilas Deo, to the hereditary throne. He was a warlike prince and extended his domains upto the gates of Etawah, a town situated, within the regions lying between the rivers the Gauges and the Jamuna. He conquered and annexed the territories belonging to the Chohan Khichar, Gaud Parmar, Ghelote, Cutelhwah, Jadav, Gujjar and other princes, as also the states of Ujjain and Chaidal. When grey with old age he entrusted the government to his son, Anik Deo, and himself set out on a pilgrimage. During the course of his tour he arrived at Dwarka, where he breathed his last. After him the throne was occupied by a succession of princes:—(1) Anik Deo, (2) Valan Deo, (3) Dalkeshar Deo, (4) Malkeshar Deo, (5) Variar Deo, (6) Vullar Deo, (7) Sinh Deo, (8) Bhairav Deo, (9) Narhari Deo and (10) Bhaidya Deo, whose reigns were altogether uneventful. One of them, Malkeshar Deo, founded the town of Malukpur, which is still in a flourishing state. The last Bhaidya Deo seized the fortress of Naroka from Ladila Parihar, where he transferred his seat of government. Legendary folk-lore ascribe his death to the rage of a Brahman. In the village of Kumbhara there lived a Brahman named Vasaman, beside whose house there grew a Pipul tree. Once, while the monarch was passing by that way, one of his attendants, taking advantage of the absence of the Brahman, cut the Pipul tree for feeding his camel. On his return home, the Brahman found the sacred tree chopped off, and hastening to the presence of the prince, he abandoned his soul. After his death he became Brahma Rakshasa and wreaked his vengeance upon the chief by taking his life. After his death, the *gadi* was occupied by his son, Shalivahan Deo.

Those of the Kshatriyas who had left their ancestral homes, and proceeded with their families, in the escort of Karan Devi, one of Bhaidya Deo's wives, to her husband's territory, acquired the distinctive name of Baxaria, from the province of Baxar, then held by the father of the bride. Their

descendants are still to be found in Bandhogarh. His other Rani was a daughter of the Sisodiya chief of Udaipur, and her attendants were called Meenas, whose descendants are also found residing in Rewa. Shalivahan Deo, the son of Bhaidya Deo, was succeeded by Vir Sinh Deo, who once more made Bandhogarh his capital. He defeated the chiefs of Chhota Nagpur, Gadha Mandila, Ratanpur, Bastar, and conquered their territories. He granted the Taluka of Kevti in appanage to his younger brother, Nagmal Deo. Vir Sinh Deo was, after his demise, succeeded by his son, Virbhan Deo. Of his two brothers, he provided the elder, Jamuni Bhan, with the estates of Maihar and Sohagpur, while to the other, Shori Deo, he granted the fiat of Veeda. The present Thakores of Tendun, Rampura and Gadhwa claim their descent from these two brothers.

In the reign of Virbhan Deo Sher Khan, an Afghan Sardar of repute, took up arms against the Mughal Emperor, Humayun. In the contest that ensued the powerful Emperor was defeated and Sher Khan tore the Imperial diadem off his brow. The Begum of the fugitive monarch, Hamida, or better known in Baghel Khand by the name of "Choli Begum," once came up to the neighbourhood of Bandhogarh, attended by only a few retainers. Virbhan Deo personally went to her, and entreated her with great respect and politeness to partake of his hospitality at his Court. The distressed queen was then *enceinte*, and the chivalrous Virbhan Deo, consoling her, begged of her to stay at Bandhogarh. The Begum, however, was too much afraid of her mortal enemy, Sher Khan, to take up her residence at a place so near his capital. She expressed her desire to proceed to Sindh and there join her dear lord. Virbhan Deo ordered his brave *Pattawats* to safely escort her, with their followers, to Umarkote, where the crest-fallen Emperor was then residing. Humayun was mightily pleased with the prince's hospitality and loyalty, and desired his gallant Sardars to convey to their master his heart-felt thanks for his generosity. The illustrious Emperor Akbar, of immortal fame, was born of the loins of this unfortunate Begum, and all the Mughal emperors from Akbar down to Bahadur Shah cherished with endearment feelings of gratitude and respect for the Chiefs of Rewa.

Virbhan Deo was succeeded by Ram Deo. Mussuhian historians call him Ramchandra, and describe his estate under the name of Bhatha. It is only from Mahomedan sources that we have been able to glean even this meagre account of this principality during these times. Gaji Khan Tanjur, holding the rank of a Sardar under Adil Shah, one of Sher Khan's descend-

ants, swore fealty to the young Emperor Akbar, and accepting service at his court, became, in course of time, the Emperor's trusted comrade. Once flying from the rage of Akbar, this nobleman sought shelter at the court of Ramchandra. The Emperor asked the chief not to give him refuge at Rewa, but instantly despatch him to Delhi. The Kshatriyas from times immemorial have always thought it a point of honour to boldly repudiate any proposal concerning the surrender of a person harboured at their court, and Ramchandra, too, with the traditional instinct of his race, refused to accede to the Emperor's wishes. Akbar commanded Abdul Mazid Ashof Khan, the *Jagirdar* of Gadha Kadhang, to proceed to Ramchandra's Court and persuade him to surrender the person of the fugitive. If he persisted in withholding Gaji Khan, the *Jagirdar* had peremptory orders to use force, and vanquishing Ram Deo, to drag Gaji Khan to Delhi. After the rainy season was over, Abdul Mazid sent a message to Ram Deo, requesting him not to disobey the mandate of the Emperor; but the Hindu Chief, true to his word, rather than give up the Moslem, chose to expose himself and his subjects to the miseries of war. Gaji Khan also joined his standard with his brave Pathan warriors. In the struggle that ensued victory attended the arms of Ashof Khan, and Gaji Khan, the 'apple of discord,' was slain. Ramchandra fled and shut himself up in the citadel of Bandhogarh. The victorious Ashof Khan followed him thither and besieged the fortress. The siege lasted long, but without any decisive result. At last, moved by the entreaties of the friends and relations of Ram Deo, residing at his Court, the Emperor Akbar granted him free pardon, and withdrew his troops from Bandhogarh. The Emperor and the Chief were reconciled, and the friendly relations heretofore existing between them were renewed. The famous Tansen, the Orpheus of Indian Music, whose name has become a household-word throughout the country and whose skill in music has never been equalled, much less surpassed, was then the court musician of Raja Ram Deo. Akbar, hearing of his fame, wished to invite Tansen to his Court, and for that purpose, sent one of his Sardars, Jalal Khan, in 1562, to Ram Deo's capital to escort that gifted musician to Delhi, with all the honors due to his high rank. Ram Deo, while bidding farewell to Tansen, presented him with rich apparel and jewelry and respectfully sent him on to the Emperor's presence. Akbar was pleased beyond measure with the celestial music of this man of rare genius and kept him constantly at his Court. When he was carried off by the hand of cruel Death the grief of the Emperor was boundless. He

lies buried at Gwalior, where his grave still forms one of the places of interest in that splendid city, and where lovers of music still repair to do homage to the shrine of their patron saint. Ramchandra ceded to the Emperor the fort of Kalinjer, and thus promoted the friendly relations existing between the two potentates.

Virbhadra succeeded Ram Deo to the throne. Tradition ascribes his death also to the curse of a Brahma Rakshasa. He was succeeded by his eldest son, Vikramaditya Sinh, in 1618. This new sovereign hit upon the idea of removing his capital from Bandhogarh to another place, which he desired to populate in its vicinity. Once, while hunting in the forest he came up to a spot, where the two rivers Vichhia and Bihar meet. He let loose his hunting dogs upon a hare just issuing out of its hole. The small animal ran for its life, and arriving at the spot, where the royal palace at present stands, it wallowed on the ground, and boldly confronted the fierce dogs. The king, who stood all the while a silent spectator of every thing that occurred, attributed it to the miraculous power of the soil over which the hare had recently wallowed. Returning to his camp, he consulted his minister, and erecting a fortification there, he founded a city, which he embellished at a great expense. His firm conviction was that the place which produced such hares could not but produce human beings of inordinate strength and valour. The city, which was thus founded at the junction of the rivers Vichhia and Bihar, was named Rewa. Vikramaditya Sinh had three sons, Amar Sinh, Indrasen and Sarup Sinh. Of these the eldest, Amar Sinh, ascended the paternal throne, while the estates of Patharhatha and Gadhisoharwa were respectively granted to Indrasen and Sarup Sinh.

Amar Sinh had two sons, Anup Sinh and Fatteh Sinh, of whom the elder, Anup Sinh, succeeded his father to the *gadi*. Fatteh Sinh obtained in appanage the fief of Sohawal. Anup Sinh had, in his turn, three sons, Bhav Sinh, Dasmal Sinh and Jhunkta Sinh. The eldest, Bhav Sinh, inheriting the throne, Dasmal Sinh was provided with Gunth, and Jhunkta Sinh received the grant of Ramnagar. Maharaja Bhav Sinh had married Ajab Kumvarba, the daughter of Amar Sinh, who was the heir-apparent of that immortal hero in the Rajasthan, who preserved unsullied the honor of the Kshatryia name, and who valiantly fought with the innumerable hosts of the Mughal Emperor—Rana Pratap, the flower of the Sisodiya House of Mewad. She caused a reservoir to be excavated at Rewa, which is still known by the significant name of *Rani*.

Talao,' When her husband died, this noble scion of Pratap's family immolated herself on the funeral pyre with her departed lord. Bhav Sinh had brought an idol of Jagadish from Jagannath Puri, where he had repaired on a pilgrimage, and erecting a splendid temple at the junction of Vichhia and Bilhar, he had dedicated it to the god Jagadish with great pomp and ceremony. This temple still forms an object of interest to travellers visiting Rewa. Lambadhar Moti Mahel (palace) and the citadel of Amar Patan were also constructed by this sovereign. As he was not blessed with any male offspring, he took in adoption Anirudh Sinh, the younger son of his brother, Dasmal Sinh. He succeeded Bhav Sinh to the throne, but hardly had five years elapsed since the date of his installation, when he was shot by Raghunath Sinh, the *Jagirdar* of Sengar. The regicide, hastening to the palace, informed the authorities of the foul deed he had perpetrated. Strangely enough, a free pardon was accorded to the culprit. Abdhut Sinh, the only surviving heir to the throne, was then only an infant aged 6 months, and the neighbouring chief of Panna in Bundel Khand, taking advantage of this interregnum, marched upon Rewa at the head of a large army. The Sardars fought with all their strength, but they were defeated by their more powerful antagonist; and Van Kumvarba, the Queen-mother, fled with the infant prince to her parental home. The Bundelas overran the whole territory of Rewa except the castle of Uparhathi, which did not yield to their arms. The Queen-mother then sent an envoy to the Court of Mahomed Bahadur Shah Alamgir, then reigning at Delhi. He pathetically placed before the monarch all the grievances of the Rewa Chief, and implored his assistance to wreak a deadly vengeance upon the head of the imperious lord of Panna. The Emperor despatched a large army to march against the Bundelas and to deprive them of their estate of Panna, and to settle it upon young Abdhut Sinh, along with his paternal estate. The chief of the Bundelas, who had taken up his residence at Rewa, hearing this, at once ran to the rescue of his hereditary estate, putting a small detachment at Rewa for its preservation. The Sardars, who had shut themselves up in the fortress of Uparhathi, now sallying out of it, drove away the Bundelas from Rewa. The Imperial troops were thus saved the trouble of proceeding to Rewa, and conquering it for thier ally, Abdhut Sinh. The infant prince with his mother was next escorted by the Sardars from Pratapgarh to the capital and securely placed on the *gadi*. He, however, did not prove a capable ruler. After Abdhut Sinh's death the throne was occupied by his son Ajit Sinh. In

his reign Alligohar, or better known as Shah Alam, the Emperor of Delhi, once fled with his consort, and took refuge at the court of Rewa. The name of the Begum was Mubarak Mahel, but the people of Rewa more popularly called her Lalba. She was then in family way, and the Emperor, who was bent upon proceeding to Buxar, requested Ajit Singh to keep her securely at his capital, until she was delivered of a child. The Maharaja of Rewa accepted the proposal with the greatest pleasure, and assigning the citadel of Mukundgarh for her residence, the imperial consort remained there in regal splendour. She there gave birth to a son, who was named Akbar Shah.

Baji Rao Peishwa had a son by his mistress, Mastani, who was named Samsher Bahadur. His son, Ali Bahadur, overran the whole of Bundel Khand; but as Ajit Singh did not yield to his arms, he sent his lieutenant, Dashmat Rao, to Rewa, with a detachment of his troops. Ajit Singh lost courage, but his wife, Kundan Kumari, a brave Kshatriyani, summoned together all the officers of the State, and bade them take an oath of allegiance to the house of Ajit Singh. A battle was fought on the 4th of December 1796, between the contending armies, in which Dashmat Rao was slain, and his army dispersed. Four years after Ali Bahadur marched in person upon Rewa, at the head of a large army, and sent a message to Ajit Singh, bidding him either pay the expenses of the Nacyk's late campaign (Nalbandhi) and an annual tribute, or lead his army to the field to measure strength with his own troops. The Maharaja in return deputed Kalandhar Singh Karchuli as his plenipotentiary to the camp of Ali Bahadur; and the fascinating speech and polite manners of the Kshatriya envoy produced such a marvellous effect upon the mind of the invader that he agreed to remit the tribute, and be satisfied with the mere acceptance of the Nalbandhi, amounting to a *lakh* of rupees. Rewa was then too poor to pay such a large sum at a reckoning, and Kalandhar Singh was ordered to remain with Ali Bahadur as a hostage until the full amount was paid. The sum was at last borrowed from Ishwar Singh of Manda, to whom the district of Tyonthar was mortgaged; and Kalandhar Singh obtained his discharge from the camp of Ali Bahadur. The chief of Manda dishonestly refused to part with the mortgaged estate, although it was redeemed; and in 1802 an internecine feud broke out between the neighbouring states for the possession of Tyonthar, which ended in the success of Ajit Singh. Afterwards there arose a dispute, regarding certain boundaries, with the Nawab of Lucknow, who sent an army under the command of Ashavaran.

To oppose him Ajit Sinh despatched Nahar Sinh, the Baghela chief of Rampur. He inflicted a mortal wound on Ashvaran with his dagger, and scattered the Moslem army in every direction. Ajit Sinh was thus able to snatch an easy victory over his antagonist. In all the three battles the Chief of Rewa lost no less than 18 of his brave vassals, whose families were all provided with villages for maintenance. Ajit Sinh was, after his death, succeeded by his son, Jaya Sinh Deo, in the year 1809. Three years after his accession the Maharaja waged a deadly war with the Pindharas, and in 1812, sacked the village of Mirjapur. After the British Government had decided upon the payment of an adequate compensation to the party injured, certain stipulations were agreed upon and finally entered into between the English, represented by John Richardson Esquire, and the Maharaja of Rewa represented by Bakshi Bhagwanditta. Under the terms of that arrangement it was agreed on the part of Jaya Sinh Deo, that any dispute with the neighbouring chiefs be referred to the arbitration of the British Government, and that an English contingent be stationed within the Rewa territory. Accordingly a place near Simiria in the district of Badhra was selected for the British Cantonment, where it is situated even at the present day. Fresh stipulations were made on June 2nd 1813, by John Wassoﬀ Esquire, on behalf of the British Government, by which the Maharaja confirmed the previous agreement. He further agreed to facilitate the English settlers within his dominions, to employ an agent at the court of the British officer, and to establish a post-office at a suitable place within his dominions. Jabar Jast Sinh, the Rao of Chorhatha, turned out the English Infantry, stationed within his territory, and plundering the mail, killed a Sowar (horseman) and a sepoy (footman). This led to another agreement between John Wassoﬀ and Lal Vishvanath Sinh, the heir-apparent to the throne of Rewa on 11th March 1814. It was settled that the recalcitrant chief of Chorhatha should express his regret to the British Agent for his committing the crime of plundering the mail, and that he should be left in charge of his estate, only on his giving a proper undertaking not to repeat the offence in future. Jabar Jast Sinh gave the undertaking required, and Chorhatha was left undisturbed in his possession.

When Jaya Sinh Deo ascended the throne great disorder and discontent prevailed throughout the province, and fortunately for Rewa, it was rescued from a speedy destruction by the timely assistance afforded by the British Government. In 1813 Jaya Sinh Deo entrusted the

management of affairs to his eldest son, Vishwanath Singh. He made Ponde Bhondulal his prime minister, who commenced his administration by introducing several economic reforms. Immediately after taking charge of his office, he enquired after the condition of the state treasury, but to his great surprise, found there only two pieces of ivory, and no money. The able and experienced minister, whose tact and skill in dealing with the finances of the State were unequalled, so ably and parsimoniously carried on the government, that not only was the whole debt paid off, but the state treasury was soon replenished with surplus funds. The wife of Lal Vishwanath Singh gave birth to the heir-apparent, Raghu Raj Singh, on 3rd October 1827. The Political Agent issued orders on 8th December 1832, declaring the sale of children in the country a heinous offence against the State. Ajit Singh, the father of Jaya Singh Deo, had given in appanage to his younger son, Bhagwan Singh, 150 villages in the district of Gongor and Khadnodhi. Vishwanath Singh left only 75 villages in Khadnodhi in the possession of Bhagwan Singh and his heirs, reserving to himself the right of *chauth* (25 per cent of the revenues) therein, while he confiscated the rest of the *jagir*.

In the time of Jaya Singh Deo, one Angadrai obtained admission in the castle of Bandhogarh under the guise of a Beragee (mendicant). He by his persuasive manners won over the defending garrison to his side, and posing himself as the son of the Maharaja, he became the master of that citadel. Jaya Singh Deo and the heir-apparent, when they were informed of the attitude assumed by the pretender, at once repaired to Bandhogarh, and arresting Angadrai, banished him beyond the territory of Rewa. Jaya Singh Deo died in the year 1835, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Vishwanath Singh. He had two brothers, Rao Indra Lakshman Singh and Indra Balibhadra Singh, both of whom died childless. Vishwanath Singh was a learned and a pious prince. He is the author of several works of note, and several *Dharmashalas* (travellers' houses) were built by him at the sacred spot of Chitrakot. Bhagwantrao Kar-chuli, one of the Sardars at his court, contrived to create a feeling of distrust and disaffection in the heart of the heir-apparent, Raghu Raj Singh, then but a minor, against his revered parent. The Maharaja was touched to the heart, but a reconciliation was speedily effected between the father and the son, who both repaired on a state visit to His Excellency the Viceroy. At last the five Sardars, who were instrumental in creating that disagreeable difference between the Maharaja and his beloved son, were

peremptorily ordered to leave the dominions of Rewa, and they proceeded to Lahore, where they were employed by the Sikh Maharaja, Ranjit Singh, at his own court.

In 1843 Maharaja Vishwanath Singh entrusted the sole government to his eldest son, Raghu Raj Singh, assisting him in the discharge of emergent affairs. Maharaja Raghu Raj Singh had married Saubhagya Kumvarba, the daughter of Maharaja Sardar Singh of Udaipur, and the bridegroom had repaired to the bride's home with uncommon pomp and splendour, attended by his mighty vassals and rich Sardars. On his way back, he went to Ajmere, and there making obeisance to the shrine of Khwaja Pir, he proceeded to Pushkar Raj. It was at that sacred spot that he forced the Karchuli Sardars in attendance upon him to take a solemn vow never to kill their female offsprings, an abominable practice, then in vogue amongst them as among the Jadeja Rajputs in Gujarat. From Pushkar Raj the Maharaja went to Jaipur. His sister had been betrothed to the reigning chief of that place, and importunately requesting him to honour him and his house by repairing to Rewa, and personally accepting the hand of the bride, Raghu Raj Singh proceeded on to Mathura. There on the sacred spot of Vishram Ghat, on the bank of the river Jamuna, where the mythological demi-god, Shri Krishna, had taken repose after slaying his maternal uncle, Kansa, he got himself weighed against gold, and distributed it among the Brahmans. He then went to Agra, and visiting the famous Taj Mahel and Moti Masjid, he repaired to Fattahpur. Finally, viewing the temples at Chitrakot, the Maharaja returned to his capital.

The Cutchwah Maharaja, Ram Singh, of Jaipur, in conformity with the promise given to Raghu Raj Singh, arrived in Rewa, attended by a large bridal party, and married Janki Kumwarba and Krishna Kumwarba, the two daughters of Maharaja Vishwanath Singh. The Maharaja incurred an expense of five *lakhs* and a half at this wedding, which was celebrated with great pomp and pageant. Raghu Raj Singh in 1847 abolished the cruel practice of Suttee throughout his dominions. During the Mutiny of 1857, the Maharaja of Rewa loyally assisted the British Government, and his services were rewarded with the grant of the two districts of Sohagpur and Amarkantak. In 1864, the Maharaja was further decorated with the *insignia* of the Knight Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India. The Maharaja, in 1868, appointed as his Diwan, the celebrated Raja Sir Dinkar Rao K. C. S. I., who on the occasion of the

Imperial Assemblage at Delhi in 1877, was honoured with the title of "Raja Musir I. Khas Bahadur." The Maharaja went to Calcutta in 1875 to pay respects to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales. He also attended the splendid Darbar held at Delhi on January 1st 1877, on the occasion of the assumption by H. M. Queen Victoria of the title of the Empress of India. The salute of 17 guns to which he was hitherto entitled was then raised to 19.

Maharaja Raghu Raj Singh expired at the age of 46 years in 1880. He was succeeded by the present Maharaja, Vyankatesh Ramaniuj Prasad Singh, who was then three years and six months of age. During his minority the State has been administered by a Council of Regency under the control of the British Political Agent.

The Government of India gave its formal sanction to the succession of the young Maharaja in March 1880, and he was installed on the *gadi* on the 8th October of the same year.

Ram Raj Singh, the chief of the feudatory appanage of Madhogarh, and who was also the heir-presumptive to the Rewa *gadi*, died childless in the month of May 1881. The young Maharaja was the nearest male relative of the deceased Thakore and the estate was consequently resumed by the Rewa authorities. In support of this resumption it was contended that the estate, which had originally been conferred by Maharaja Jaya Singh Deo in 1809 on his second son, must on failure of lineal heirs in that branch revert to the parent stock, and as Ram Raj Singh died without issue, the Maharaja of Rewa was perfectly justified in resuming the fief of Madhogarh. This action on the part of the Rewa Darbar was subsequently ratified by the Supreme Government.

The Political Agent of Baghel Khand, who had since 1875 indirectly administered the affairs of Rewa owing to the minority of the Maharaja, was in February 1889 appointed the sole administrator of that State. To assist him in the work of administration, a consultative Council, mainly consisting of principal Sardars of the State was constituted. The principal function of this body was to advise the British Administrator in all matters connected with the Maharaja's family and the customs and traditions of the State.

The State of Rewa is famous for the rich coal mines it owns. On the 21st January 1885 the Administrator of Rewa made certain concessions to the

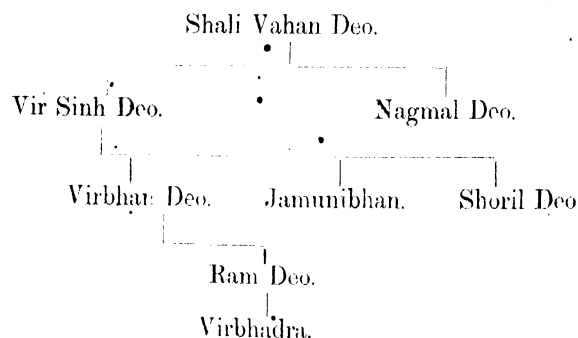
Government of India, by which they acquired all the mining rights in the Umaria coal fields, the surface of which extends over nearly three square miles. The terms agreed upon between the British and the Rewa Governments are of course subject to a revision on the Maharaja's attaining the age of majority. Under the agreement then concluded the British Government were made to pay to the Rewa State a certain amount of royalty, in consideration of its abandoning all mining rights over those coal fields. The civil and criminal Jurisdiction over that tract was in April 1885 ceded to the Government of India, who have entrusted the immediate control and supervision over the tract, and the management of the mining operation to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

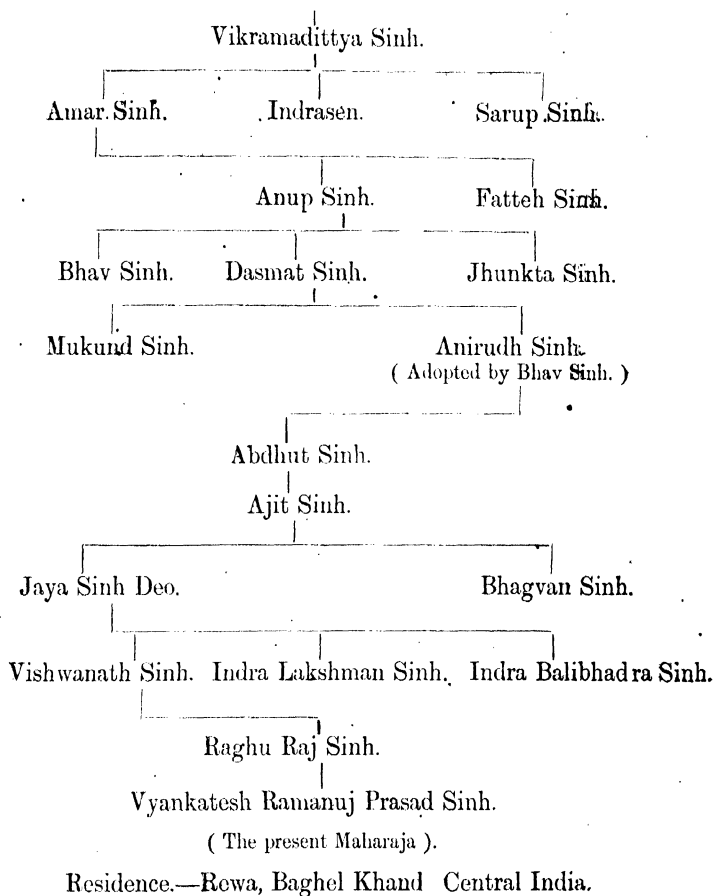
The Maharaja of Rewa took a prominent part in the public rejoicings, with which the whole of India rang in the month of February of the ever memorable year 1887, the Jubilee year, when H. M. G. M. the Queen Empress finished the 50th year of her glorious reign. There were brilliant illuminations in the capital town of Rewa and the young school boys were regaled with sweetmeats. In commemoration of this auspicious occasion the foundation-stone of a large hospital was laid, which when completed was named the Victoria Hospital. The Maharaja also liberated 45 prisoners, and contributed the sum of 2,000 rupees towards the Imperial Institute.

Maharaja Vyankatesh Ramanuj Prasad Sinh enjoys Judicial powers of life and death, and is entitled to a salute of 17 guns.

Genealogical tree.

Vyagra Deo, Katan Deo, Sohag Deo, Sarang Deo, Villas Deo, Bhinial Deo, Anik Deo, Valan Deo, Dalkeshar Deo, Malkeshar Deo, Variar Deo, Vullar Deo, Sinh Deo, Bhairav Deo, Narhari Deo, Bhaidya Deo and.—





BAHAWALPUR.

Area.— 17,285 sq. miles. Population.—6,50,042.

Revenue.—16,00,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north-east by the British District of Sirsa; on the east and south by the Rajputana States of Pikaner and Jaisalmer; on the south-west by Sindh; and on the north-west by the Indus and the Sutlej rivers.

The rulers of Bahawalpur are styled Nawabs. Its founder was one Daud Khan, who collected his tribesmen at Sikarpur in Sindh. They had been driven away from their homes by Ahmed Shah Durrani of Kabul; they, thereupon, settled themselves in a desert tract of land to the west of the Indus. The Jat Hindus, who then inhabited those regions, were overpowered and made to recede by them, and on the subjugation of the neighbouring country, a kingdom was found there. He was succeeded by his son, Mubarak, who extended his kingdom by adding to it the district of Khandal, which he acquired from the Bhattis, and fixed his capital at Derraval. Bahawal Khan, who succeeded him, founded a city, which he called after his own name Bahawalpur. When he was so engaged, his principality was invaded and the capital besieged and taken by the Padshah of Kabul in 1780. Bahawal Khan was not prepared to offer any resistance to such a formidable foe; he recognized his supremacy and gave his son, Mubarak, as a hostage for his loyalty to him. Mubarak's stay at Kabul covered a long period of three years, at the end of which he returned to his native land. He rose against his father, but was overcome and thrown into confinement. He was liberated from his captivity by his father before his death. But during the lifetime of Bahawal Khan, the nobles who had risen against him, assassinated Mubarak, placing his younger brother, Sadik Mahmood, on the throne. After his accession he came into collision with his relatives and other powerful rulers of the country, but every-where he met with success. He declared his independence from the yoke of Kabul, taking advantage of the civil war of succession, consequent on the death of Ahmed Shah Durrani. His son, Bahawal Khan II, received the Nawabship after his death. During his reign, he was in standing dread of Maharaja Ranjit Singh of Punjab, who led frequent invasions against the cis-Sutlej States. He implored the British Government to assist him in offering resistance to the Maharaja; but they were not then inclined to embroil themselves with him. At length when the British Government had concluded a treaty with the

great Maharaja in 1809, they intimated to the Nawab their willingness to protect him, for (by virtue of the treaty) Ranjit Singh had stipulated to confine himself on one side of the Sutlej. In 1833, the Government made a commercial treaty with the Nawab, who was recognized as an independent sovereign, and the Indus and the Sutlej were freely opened to traffic. A second treaty, which Nawab Bahawal Khan concluded with the British Government, contained an acknowledgement of the British Supremacy on the part of the Nawab, and a recognition of his independence by the Government; it also contained a special stipulation not to negotiate any treaty with other states without the permission of the Government, and to refer all matters of dispute with the neighbouring states to the arbitration of the British Government.

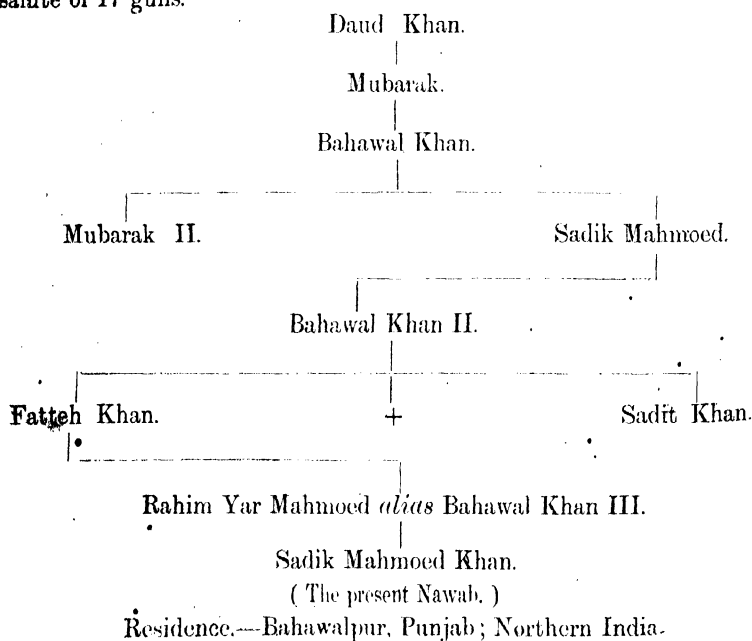
During the first Afghan war, the Nawab of Bahawalpur gave substantial assistance to the British Government, which was rewarded by the cession of the districts of Subjulkot and Bhung Bara. In the second Sikh war he fought as an ally of the British Government at the battle of Multan; for this and several other meritorious services the Government bestowed on him an annual pension of a *lakh* of rupees till the termination of his life.

Bahawal Khan II. died in 1852. He had nominated as his successor his third son, Sadit Khan, in supersession of his eldest son, Fattah Khan. Fattah Khan, being a man of some spirit, could not quietly submit to this; he took up arms with the help of the leading nobles against his brother and succeeded in dethroning him. The deposed prince sought the assistance of the British Government, who declined to interfere in the internal affairs of the State. At length an arrangement was arrived at, by which Sadit Khan was to relinquish his claims to the throne and reside in the British territory, and was to receive a handsome pension of 1,600 rupees every month. He died in 1858. Rahim Yar Mahmood succeeded his father, Fattah Khan, at the age of 17 in 1858. When he ascended the throne he assumed the name of Bahawal Khan III; oppression and extortion characterized his short reign. In the beginning he governed the kingdom humanely with the advice of his Vazier; but afterwards he grew blood-thirsty; the murder of his Vazier drove his partizans to break into an open revolt, and the Nawab put to death his three uncles, who had joined the rebel party. He was restrained in giving free vent to his bloody passion by the fear of the British Government, under whose protection he sent away the Dowager Begum of his grand-father and the two infant sons of his uncle. The insurrection of the nobles in 1865 was disorganized by the expiration of

the Nawab, in March of 1866. Sadik Mahmoed Khan II., who succeeded him, is the present Nawab of Bahawalpur.

He was an infant when he was enthroned; the administration was carried on by a British officer appointed by the Government. 25000 rupees were assigned to him as a monthly allowance, and he was kept at Lahore. In 1876 at the time of the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to Punjab, he was present there. He also attended the Imperial Assemblage of Delhi.

In 1879, Nawab Sadik Mahmoed attained the state of manhood and was consequently invested with the independent management of the State; but it was then resolved to appoint a Council of Regency, which was composed of six members to assist the young Nawab with their advice. In 1879-80, at the time of the Second Afghan War, the Nawab materially assisted the Government in the transport of troops; the Nawab's forces, which he placed at the disposal of the Government, were stationed at Dera-ghaji Khan to protect the frontiers and they rendered valuable service. In the same year he was created a Knight Grand Commandar of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India. His Highness Nawab Sadik Mahmoed Khan has judicial powers of life and death and is entitled to a salute of 17 guns.



Area—1,974 sq. miles. Population.—639,825.

Revenue.—27,00,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the British District of Gurgaon; on the east by the Districts of Muttra and Agra; on the south-east, south, and south-west by the native States of Dholpur, Karauli and Jaipur; and on the west by Alwar.

This State is governed by Jat Chiefs. In ancient chronicles they are known as Getae or Massagetæ. They at first settled themselves about Amratsar, in the Bari Doab, in the Punjab, and at present they are found there in large numbers. They appear to have attacked Mahmood Ghizni near Multan on his way back thither from Somnath in 1024, and massacred a good lot of Mahomedans. To avenge this, Mahmood led an invasion in 1027 against them, and as his preparations were formidable the Jats fell an easy victim to the irresistible Mahomedan fury. This warlike race had to encounter Tamerlane of Samarkand, when he ordered a general pillage of Multan in 1398, on his route to Delhi, after his conquests in the western and central Asia; and though they were ultimately overpowered, they submitted not without cutting down several thousand Mahomedans. Babar also had to encounter the resistance of these people in the Punjab when he marched at the head of his army against Delhi in 1525. The Mughal Emperors had to send repeated expeditions against them owing to their turbulent character, which to a certain extent checked their further advance. Upon the death of Emperor Aurangzeb in 1707, the civil war of succession which ensued, weakened the Empire and reduced it to a tottering condition. The Jats were not slow to perceive their opportunity; they left their homes and peaceful occupations to try their capacity for tumult and mischief. They placed themselves under the head of one Chudanam and erected small fortresses, settling themselves there and seizing possession of the surrounding land, they tilled the soil, and when urged by necessity scrupled not to take to pillage. Such hardy and dauntless robbers they turned out to be, that fearlessly on one occasion they entered the capital of the empire and proceeded to the very gates of the palace, carrying and plundering every thing that came in their way. This outrage was perpetrated when that nerveless monarch Faruksiyar was on the throne of Delhi (1713-19), while the reality and the substance of the power rested with the two Saiyed brothers Abdulla and Husein Ali. They directed Raja Jaya Sinh II of Jaipur to besiege Jat strongholds and

extirpate that turbulent race. Jaya Sinh set out to execute the commands of his sovereign, but owing to the impregnability of the mud walls, his attempts to carry them by storm were frustrated. Shortly afterwards, Chudanam, the Jat leader threw his brother Badan Sinh into prison. He escaped from the prison, and with a few Jat followers repaired to Jaipur. The inevitable consequences of a house divided against itself followed. He succeeded in inducing Jaya Sinh to march against the Jat fortresses. Now a Jat for the first time was arrayed against a brother Jat in a battle. Chudanam was defeated and he and his son fled away. The leadership of the Jats fell on Badan Sinh, who was invested with the new dignity near Diggarh, by Jaya Sinh on behalf of the Emperor.

Badan Sinh had a numerous progeny of whom Suraj Mal, Shubha-Ram, Pratap Sinh and Bir Narayan were the best known. As the Empire neared its dissolution, Badan Sinh made new acquisitions of several districts. He desired Pratap Sinh to succeed him, but Suraj Mal, the eldest, determined to ensure his own succession by any means after his father's death. The first step taken by him was to seize the fortress of Bharatpur, which was in the possession of a Jat leader named Kaima, and to set him self up there as an independent chief. In 1754, he had to confront the combined troops of Gaji-ud-Din, Madhu Sinh of Jaipur, and the Marathas in a pitched battle, in which though he was vanquished, his enemies purchased the victory at a heavy cost. He joined as an auxiliary with his 30,000 Jat followers, the Maratha banner, when they marched under the command of Sadashiv Bhau to Delhi to secure the Mughal throne. On the field of Panipat, he, with several other Maratha leaders, was for sticking to the old fashion of conducting warfare, the congenial guerilla and the cutting off the supply of the enemy, enunciated by the ever memorable Shivaji, and followed by the illustrious Baji Rao Peshwa with such conspicuous success. Such a dilatory process, however, was too much for the patience of the haughty Bhau. It was unfortunately very lightly and thoughtlessly repudiated. Suraj Mal, discontented with the proposed plan of campaign returned home. The Marathas and the Afghans met on the plain of Panipat on the 7th January 1761; the disastrous battle ended in the defeat and the destruction of the Marathas. It is said that two hundred thousand lives were sacrificed on the fatal field.

Taking advantage of the stupour and exhaustion brought on by the defeat of the Marathas, Suraj Mal took possession of Agra and placed a

strong Jat garrison there. In 1763 a war broke out the Jat prince, and Madhu Sinh of Jaipur, and so sanguinary was the contest that though Suraj Mal sustained a nominal defeat, the principal Jaipur Sardars were slain, and Madhu Sinh died four days after, of wounds received on the battle-field. Next year he marched against Delhi and lay encamped in its vicinity. On one occasion when he was out on a hunting expedition he was beset and slain in the Jungle by a band of Beluchi horsemen.

Javahir Sinh succeeded his father, but was slain in an encounter with the Raja of Jaipur. Ratan Sinh his brother came to the throne; he was a generous but a simple hearted ruler. A Brahmin of Muttra, a consummate rogue, told him that he was acquainted with the art of turning any ordinary metal into gold. He had, by deceiving credulous people, amassed a large fortune. Ratan Sinh was inveigled into the snare by his artful address, and permitted the Brahmin to have a free access to the royal coffers which were to be filled with glittering gold. The furnace was prepared, but on the day appointed for the completion of the expiement, the cheat, fearing that the king would take his life, if he saw through his trick; summoned him to a private audience and there stabbed him with small knife.

After his death, Kesari Sinh, his infant son, was placed on the throne; his uncle Newal Sinh becoming his guardian. Newal Sinh though a man of intelligence was physically unable to lead his fiery band against the enemies. Whenever Bharatpur was sacked Newal Sinh shut himself up in the fortress of Dig. He remained in such a constant dread of his foes that he invariably resided there till his death by dropsy in 1773. The third son of Suraj Mal, Namal Sinh, was appointed guardian of the infant sovereign; but his younger brother Ranjit was a man of great ambition. He approached Mirza Nazaf Khan, the Mughal Sardar, for help, which being granted, he obtained possession of the fortress of Agra.

Sometime after, when Mirza's presence was required in Rohil Khand, Namal Sinh made himself bold to march against Delhi. Sikandrabad was besieged and stormed. But his possession was of a short duration only. When he was in the act of attacking Hodal, a city 60 miles to the south of Dehli, with the disciplined army of Samru, he was surprised by Mirza and Ranjit Sinh; and so completely were they overpowered by the surprise that they left the scene precipitously. They fled in the direction of Kotban and Dig. Their course was followed up by Mirza, who, was not

able to reduce the fortress of Dig. He and Ranjit now resolved to effect by stratagem what they could not do by force. They set up a bait to attract Namal Sinh in the direction of Barsana. Their plan succeeded and Dig fell into their hands. The siege lasted for about a year. When Namal, to his great anguish was apprized of the fall of Dig, he was completely disheartened. Ranjit followed up his success by taking the capital. As the conquest was won by the joint exertions of Mirza and Ranjit, they wrangled over their prize; but a compromise was brought about by Ranjit's mother, which secured to him the possession of the whole country, and to Mirza 700,000 rupees in hard cash. In 1782, the year in which the doughty Mirza took his final repose, Sindhia overran the whole territory of the Jats, but on the intercession of the widow of Suraj Mal, eleven *Paraganas* were restored to Ranjit on payment of ten lakhs of rupees. After the lapse of a few years three more *Paraganas* were granted in *Inam* for the services which he rendered to Sindhia's General, Perron, though the grant was not confirmed until 400,000 rupees were paid by Ranjit. On the death of Keshari Sinh, Ranjit Sinh became the king of Bharatpur.

In the opening years of his reign Ranjitsinh proved himself to be the most unscrupulous tyrant. The battle of Laswari, fought between the English and Daulat Rao Sindhia on the 1st November 1803, was won by Lord Lake mainly owing to the assistance which Ranjit Sinh gave him with his cavalry. The obligation under which the British Government was placed by him was discharged by the transfer of five *Paraganas* on a payment of 700,000 rupees.

The Jats thus came in connection with the British power on the 27th February 1804 and their independence was guaranteed to them. They were further discharged from the tribute which they had to pay to the Marathas, and an undertaking was also given for their protection against foreign aggression.

The alliance thus formed was soon brought to a close owing to a change of policy on the part of Ranjit Sinh. He was called upon by the English Commander to furnish assistance to him when the war between the English and Jasvant Rao Holkar broke out. For sometime he gave vague and evasive answers, but at last he became clear and emphatic in his tone. He did not choose to remain neutral, but actually participated in the warfare by joining the army of Holkar, and taking the field against his former allies. A battle was fought near Dig on the 13th

November 1804 which resulted in the defeat and flight of Holkar; some of his partizans shutting themselves up in the fortress. Lord Lake at the head of the British forces set out against Dig on the 13th December. The combined troops of Holkar and Ranjit were posted within and round the walls, and two strong bastions were built on both the flanks. It took only a few days to effect a breach in the walls, and erect the two towers. The enemies quitted the fortress by the opening made in the wall and the British troops occupied it on the 28th December. The triumphant army then marched against Bharatpur, the capital of the Jat Chief.

The siege of Bharatpur commenced on the 7th January 1805. The circumvallation of the city was eight or ten miles, and it was surrounded by a strong wall. The mud wall was 60 feet broad. It was erected by the Jats in the time of Aurangzeb, by wealth acquired by their depredation on Boongoo, made of mud, behind which was a broad ditch. It was manned by a strong army. Four attempts to carry the place by storm were made by the besieging army on 9th and 21st January and the 20th and 21st February, but without any success. The Jat army and the people fought with singular gallantry against the English. Every Regiment that was sent in the front was warmly received by showers of massive stones and boiled oil; the cannons played with deadly effect on the British ranks, and volleys of gun fires made a dreadful havoc. The soldiers tried to scale the wall by means of their bayonets to plant the British Flag, but in vain; they were cut down by the Jat garrison. In spite of the dashing valour of the British soldiers, it availed them nothing owing to the impregnability of the mud walls. Lord Lake, when he saw that it was not possible to reduce the fortifications by storming and escalade, determined closely to invest it so as to leave no egress out of the walls. He kept a vigilant eye on every opening in the wall. Ranjit Singh was wearied by the dull prolongation of the warfare, and his ally Holkar had grown apathetic, lukewarm and spiritless. Ranjit Singh therefore sent the terms on which he sought peace; they were readily accepted by Lord Lake, because the country, groaning under a chronic warfare, was drifting from bad to worse. The treaty was signed on the 17th. April 1805. Ranjit Singh had to pay 20,00,000 rupees as the expenses of the war; the *Paraganas* given in 1803 by the British Government were to be returned and the fortress of Dig was to continue in the possession of the British till Ranjit Singh's good faith was

perfectly established. The siege of Bharatpur is said to have cost the English the lives of 3,200 men.

Ranjit Singh no doubt suffered a great pecuniary loss ; and the effects of the contest on the State were ruinous ; still their reputation, in the native states and with the people at large, was considerably heightened, for it was the first time when the British arms had received a reverse.

Ranjit died in 1807, and his son, Randhir Singh, succeeded him. Though this new Chief did much to endanger peace, the British Government, with a truly admirable solicitude for human lives, passed over his faults of commission and omission, and refrained from going to war. At the time of the Pindhara war in 1817, Randhir Singh sent a small army to the assistance of the British Government to take part in the campaign. He died on the 7th October 1823. He left no son, so his brother, Baldeo Singh, succeeded him, but he too died on the 26th February 1825, after a short rule of a year and a half. Balvant Singh, an infant only six years old, now came to the throne. His succession was recognized by the British Resident of Rajputana and Malwa, Sir David Ochterlony ; but in that very year it was disputed by his cousin, Durjan Sal, who threw the infant prince and his mother Mirat Kumvarba, in prison and had his maternal uncle, who was the young prince's guardian, murdered ; he, however, completed the atrocity by taking into his possession the fortress of Bharatpur. He further strengthened his footing by procuring the support of the prince of Karauli and of other neighbouring chiefs. When the news reached Sir David, he forthwith raised a strong force and ordered it to proceed to Bharatpur against Durjan Sal ; but it was soon recalled by Lord Amherst, the Governor General, who did not think it justifiable to interfere on so slight a ground, in the internal politics of independent native states. Sir David, finding himself overruled, resigned his post. Now Bharatpur was a scene of profound chaos and disorder ; and the oppression of Durajan Sal was met with resistance and revolt everywhere. The Governor General saw his mistake and ordered notifications to be circulated, under the signature of the new Resident, Sir Charles Metcalfe, on the 10th November 1825, purporting to emphasize the necessity of relieving the young prince from his confinement, of seizing Durajan Sal and maintaining peace and order in the country. A force, 25 thousand strong, under the command of Lord Combermeere was directed to proceed to Bharatpur. A large army had assembled within the walls of Bharatpur to assist Durjan Sal. The one cause

of his being so eagerly supported was the impression that had prevailed among the people by the virtual defeat of Lord Lake in 1805, that there was but one stronghold in India, which could withstand British ingenuity and British valour, and it was Bharatpur. Again as Durjan Sal had the pluck to beard the lion, he was held up as a patriot, and there was all the greater necessity to stick to him so long, as their bodies were animated with the breath of life.

• Lord Combermeere with his army and artillery approached Bharatpur on the 10th December 1825. Cannons began to play on the walls, but no effect could be produced owing to the materials of which they were made and their width; at length they succeeded in making a breach by means of dynamite, which involved the loss of many precious lives. The charm of impregnability which the castle bore was dispelled, and the English arms, which had incurred discredit in 1805, shone all the more triumphantly. It is said that the preparations for the dynamite were commenced on the 23rd December and lasted till the 16th January. On the next day Bharatpur was finally taken.

Durjan Sal now thought of escape and did flee, but he was overtaken and captured alive. He was confined for his crimes and kept as a state prisoner at Allahabad under British surveillance. The young prince, Balvant Sinh, was again enthroned under the guardianship of his mother and the direct supervision of the Political Agent, in 1826. The bastions and the walls were left unrepared and in a dilapidated condition. Mirat Kumvarba conducted the administration very arbitrarily; when reproved by the Political Agent, she shut herself up in the palace and locked the gates; she threatened to commit suicide if any movement were directed against her. She was removed from the administration, and a Council of Regency was nominated, and a trusted officer was appointed at the head of each department by the Government. In 1830 the State sustained a heavy loss by the death of the Diwan, Jawahir Lal. His death was followed by disorder and mismanagement, which led to the appointment by the Government of one Bholanath, a gentleman of great social position and importance as the Diwan of Bharatpur. The administration was placed on a better footing. In 1835 when Balvant Sinh attained his 17th year, he was invested with the full powers of an independent sovereign. Thenceforward the Council of Regency was abolished, and the British Contingent, which was stationed there, was withdrawn.

The prudence and economy with which Balvant Singh conducted the affairs of the State brought on high encomiums and commendations from the Government, which renounced its right to the interest on the amount of 2,549,000 rupees, to which the debts of the State, incurred for the purposes of the former wars, had reached till the end of 1839. He died in 1853 in the fullness of his life, at the age of 35.

Jasvant Singh, who was in his 17th year, succeeded his father. During his minority the State was managed by a Council of five nobles of the State under the immediate direction of the Political Agent. He assumed the reins in his own hands in 1869. He was a generous prince, and his munificence was evinced by his subscribing 2,000 rupees to the Bengal Relief Fund, and making a donation of 5,000 rupees to the Mayo College.

In 1876, Maharaja Jasvant Singh was present at Agra to pay a visit to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who paid return visit to him at his own capital. He attended the Imperial assemblage at Delhi and was then made a G. C. S. I. He was invested with that proud title at the Government House, Calcutta on the 1st January 1878.

In 1882, with the approval of the British Government, rules were introduced in the states of Bharatpur and Alwar to facilitate the arrest and surrender of criminals. In 1883 similar agreements, for extradition were entered into by the Bharatpur Darbar with the states of Karauli, Dholpur and Jaipur.

In 1879 the Bharatpur Darbar entered into an agreement with the British Government for suppressing the manufacture of salt in the Bharatpur State, and the Government of India, in return, compensated the salt manufacturers. At the same time all duties on salt, sugar and such other produce, except some cesses like octroi, chungi and others, levied on those articles imported into towns of more than 5,000 inhabitants were abolished.

In 1884 all transit duties, except those on liquor, opium and other intoxicating articles, were abolished throughout the State by the Bharatpur Darbar.

In 1885 the Bharatpur State transferred five villages in exchange for five of the Alwar State.*

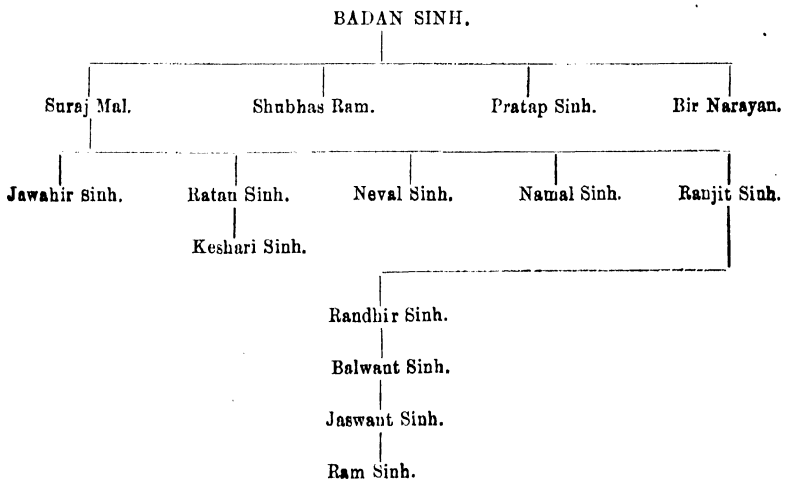
* See Alwar State.

Maharaja Jaswant Sinh died in 1893. He was succeeded by his heir-apparent, Ram Sinh, who is the present Maharaja of Bharatpur. He was born on the 26th January 1868.

The Maharaja did not turn out to be a very capable ruler, and in 1894, on grounds of political expediency he was deprived by the Government of the Supreme Power in the State, and an administrator was appointed at its head. Kumar Shri Harbhamji, of Morvi, in Kathiawad, a graduate of an English University, was selected for that responsible post.

The Maharaja of Bharatpur has been granted the right of adoption, and is entitled to a salute of 17 guns.

Genealogical Tree.



(The Present Maharaja.)

Residence. — Bharatpur, Rajputana; Western India.

BIKANER.

Area.—22,340 sq. miles. Population.—831,943.

Revenue.—1,700,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north-west by Bahawalpur, a Mahomedan State; on the north-east by the British Districts of Sirsa and Hissar in the Punjab; on the east by Jaipur; on the south and south-west by Jodhpur and Jaisalmer.

The rulers of Bikaner are Rajputs of the Rathod race, and are descended from the original stock of the House of Marwad. When Mandor was the capital of Marwad, Bika, the sixth son of Jodha, the then monarch of Marwad, acquired fresh regions, which were named, after him, Bikaner and he there established a separate kingdom. Bika was a brave and wise ruler. When he was yet a mere cadet at Mandor, it struck him that born as he was of a Rajputani it did not behove him to remain pent up in his house. In 1459, Bika left his paternal estate in company with his uncle, Kandal, and 300 Rajputs in search of some fresh adventure. In the north they met with a strong opposition from the Sanklas of Janglu whom they destroyed with conspicuous bravery. He then married the daughter of the Bhati Raja of Pugal, and with his aid built a castle named Koramdesar. By degrees he established his supremacy over the Jats and other neighbouring tribes, and became the lord of a new principality, consisting of 9 *Paraganas*, comprising 2,670 villages. These rival tribes were mainly pastoral, rearing cattle in large hordes. At the time of yielding their supremacy to Bika they exacted from him the following conditions. ' Firstly, he was to make common cause with them against the Johyas and other tribes, with whom they were then at variance; secondly, he was to guard the western frontier against the inroads of the Bhatís; thirdly, he was to hold the rights and privileges of the community inviolable.' They on their part, assigned to Bika and his descendants a hearth-tax of one rupee on each house, and a land tax of two rupees on each hundred *bighas* of cultivated land. Such were the terms of the mutual compact. They then acknowledged his sway, and Bika was subsequently enthroned at Koramdesar.

After his accession, the enemies of his subject tribes, the Johyas, were attacked and defeated. Then the Bhatís were assailed and their province, Bhagore, was wrested from them. It was in this district that Bika founded the city of Bikaner, in the year 1489, thirty years after his

departure from his paternal roof at Mandor. Six years later he expired in 1495.

At the time of his death, Bika had two sons, Nunkaran and Gursi, of whom the former succeeded him to the throne, whereas the latter obtained the estates of Gursisir and Ursisir. Nunkaran extended his dominions by making fresh conquests over the Bhatias of Jaisalmer. He had four sons, the eldest of whom had, during his father's life-time, resigned his right of succession in favour of his brother, he having obtained a separate and independent appanage. Thus after the death of Nunkaran, his second son, Jet Singh ascended the throne.

Jet Singh further extended the boundaries of the State by fresh conquests. He was succeeded by his son, Kalyan Singh. Kalyan Singh and his son, Raya Singh, were known for their great valour. The illustrious Akbar married the daughter of this monarch. Prince Raya Singh was raised to the position of a cavalier at Delhi by the Emperor. In 1561, Emperor Akbar seized from Raja Maldeo of Marwad the estates of Malkot or Mairtia and Nagore, which he gave to Raya Singh. Thenceforward the State of Bikaner became independent of Marwad. The Emperor gave him a *Firman* by which he was released from fealty to Jodhpur. Raya Singh marched against the capital of Marwad at the head of his troops. Maldeo and his sons opposed him, but being unable to resist his powerful assault, they shut themselves up in their castle. When that too was besieged, the sons of Maldeo placed their arms at the feet of the Emperor in token of unqualified submission. Akbar then ordered Raya Singh to raise the siege and restore to the Maharaja the districts which were wrested from him.

In 1572 Akbar ordered Raya Singh of Bikaner and Bhagwan Das of Jaipur to proceed to Gujarat to put down a revolt, which had recently broken out in that province. Both the lieutenants of the Emperor hastily marched towards Gujarat, but before they reached Ahmedabad, the Emperor in person came to the scene of action with his select guards. On one side the rebel army was headed by Mahmud Husain Mirza and others; on the other hand the Imperial army was under the command of Raya Singh and Bhagwan Das. The armies came to close quarters on the other side of the Sabarmati. The rebel army fought with desperate valour, but could not hold out long against the well disciplined troops of the Mughal Emperor. The leader of the rebels fled from the field, but being hotly pursued by a Mughal horseman, Gada Ali, was taken prisoner. The Emperor placed him

under the charge of Raya Sinh. In this battle 2,000 rebels lost their lives. The Rajputs under Raya Sinh killed the Mirza with his lances and forwarded his head to Agra suspended on the gates and exhibited to the public gaze. Upon the death of Raja Kalyan Sinh in 1573 Prince Raya Sinh ascended the throne. He, as the Raja of Bikaner, continued to maintain the same friendly relations with the Emperor, as he had done in his capacity of the heir-apparent. He gave his daughter in marriage to Prince Selim. The Emperor recognized him as the Raja of Bikaner, gave him the command of four thousand horse; and entrusted him with the government of Hissar. He reduced Bhatnair and extirpated his inveterate foes.

In all the wars undertaken by Akbar, Raja Raya Sinh led his gallant band of Rajputs in support of the Imperial cause. At the Royal Court his reputation stood as high as that of Man Sinh of Jaipur. He rendered valuable services to the Mughal Sovereign by the conquest of Gujarat from Mujaffar III. Again, in 1595, during the invasion of Ahmednagar, he won great distinction by slaying the governor of that place. Col. Tod in his account of Mewad writes:—"Rana Pratap demanded of Akbar, by a letter, a mitigation of hardships in a moment of excitement. Akbar had it read in the full court in presence of other Rajput princes. At this time Prithuraj, the younger brother of Raya Sinh, the prince of Bikaner, was present at the court. He told the Emperor it was a forgery (mark the warmth of nature of the Rajputs, though under submission), 'I know him well,' said he, 'for your crown he would not submit to your terms'. He requested and obtained permission to transmit by his courier, a letter to Pratap to ascertain the fact of his submission. 'The days of Rajput chivalry must be deemed to have gone for ever, if Pratap submits. It is no wonder that a Rajput is beset with adversity; for this he was born. The hopes of the Hindu rest on the Hindu; yet the Rana forsakes them. But for Pratap, all would be placed on the same level by Akbar; for our chiefs have lost their valour, and our females their honour. Akbar is the broker in the market of our race; all he has purchased but the son of Oodoh; he is beyond his price. What true Rajput would part with honour for nine days.*' "yet how many have bartered it away? Will Chitod come to

* A festival especially instituted by Akbar was held on the ninth day of each month; the fair was held in the courtyard of the palace. The Emperor assembled his Court and the Queen also had her Court. The merchants' wives exposed the manufactures of every clime, and the ladies of the Court were the purchasers. Akbar also went there in the disguise of a female, and heard what was said of the resources and strength of the Empire. On these days,

this market, when all have disposed of the chief article of the Khetri ? Despair has driven many to this mart to witness their dishonour ; will the descendant of Hamir come to witness such infamy ? This broker in the market of men will one day be overreached, he cannot live for ever ; then will our race come to Pratap. To him all look for its preservation, that its purity may again become resplendent." This effusion of patriotic feelings moved the Rana's drooping spirits, and he gave up the idea of submitting himself to the Emperor. Afterwards he was molested by the Royal troops, but in the end God helped him in maintaining his firm and noble resolve inviolate to the last day of his life.

Raja Raya Sinh expired in 1632, and his son, Prince Karan, succeeded him to the throne. It was during his *regime* that in 1658 the fratricidal wars broke out between the sons of Shah Jehan for succession to the Imperial *Musnad*. Karan espoused the cause of the rightful claimant, Dara, but their combined armies were scattered by the wily Aurangzeb, who seized the diadem for himself. The Emperor, in order to wreak a dire vengeance upon the confederates of his foe, sent a large army under an Umrah against Bikaner but the expedition proved disastrous and futile. All the machinations of the Umrah and his schemes for reducing Bikaner were frustrated by the valour of Raja Karan. That Chief expired in 1674 after a long and brilliant career.

Upon the death of Raja Karan, his son, Anop Sinh, came to the throne. In the conquest of Bijapur and Aurangabad the assistance rendered by him to the Emperor was really substantial. When Raja Jaswant Sinh of Marwad was ordered to Kabul Raja Anop Sinh accompanied him thither, with his 5,000 horse, but he was soon obliged to return to his province. Emperor Aurangzeb rewarded his services by a grant of the stronghold of Adoni and its neighbouring territory, but he was afterwards deprived of all these possessions.

In 1709, Anop Sinh died, and was succeeded by his son, Sarup Sinh. He organized a systematic opposition against the Imperial throne, for the

the Rajput honour was bartered and many of the noblest race were dishonoured. The wife of the chivalrous Prathuraj was a princess of Mewad, and when once she was waylaid by Akbar, she drew a poniard from her *corset* and held it to his breast ; she only spared him on his taking the oath of putting a stop to such fairs in which the modesty of her race was at stake.

purpose of recovering the stronghold of Adoni and its dependencies, which were resumed by Aurangzeb. In the struggle, however, he perished. The next two successors to the *gadi* were Jan Sinh and Jorawar Sinh. Nothing noteworthy is recorded to have occurred during their *regime*. In 1746 when Jorawar Sinh died, Gaj Sinh ascended the throne. He was during his whole life engaged in the border strife with the Bhati chief of Jaisalmer and the Khan of Bahawalpur, from whom he succeeded in taking several outposts on the frontier. This prince is also known in the annals as the progenitor of numerous offspring. With the exception of six sons the remaining 55 children were born of concubines.

Raj Sinh succeeded his father in 1787. He enjoyed the regal dignity for thirteen days, when he was killed by a dose of poison. The hand which prepared the fatal-cup was that of the mother of prince Surat Sinh, the fifth son of the late Raja. Raj Sinh left behind him two sons, Pratap Sinh and Jaya Sinh, who were both of very tender age at the time of their father's demise. At first Surat Sinh acted as Prince Regent for the young Pratap Sinh. He had however two elder brothers, Sartan Sinh and Ajit Sinh, whom he dismissed from Bikaner. For eighteen months, he tried to win over the aristocracy to his side by means of large gifts, but the faithful vassals saw through his scheme, and remaining firm, they made a common cause with the rightful heir and offered the usurper a strong opposition. In the encounter the nobles were defeated. Of the two royal infants, one was removed by death, while the other was kept secure under the charge of Surat's sister, a woman of extraordinary virtue and valour. She was married against her will to a man whom she detested, and was sent away from Bikaner with her husband. Taking the child under his care, Surat with his own hand strangled the innocent babe. Thus wading through blood, Surat Sinh made his way to the *gadi* of Bikaner.

The elder brothers of Surat Sinh enlisting on their behalf the sympathy of other chiefs, collected a large army, and marched against Bikaner, but they were routed by the strong army of Surat Sinh. From 1801 he began to rule indisputably and without interruption. In his time the war of succession broke out in Marwad, in which he took the side of Dhokal Sinh. To avenge this, Raja Mohan Sinh of Marwad harried his kingdom by a series of assaults. They proved highly injurious to a country, to which nature had denied all her rich and fruitful bounties. Nearly five years' revenues were taken up by these sanguinary wars. The invasion

of Bikaner by the army of Marwad, under the command of Indu Raj, led to several encounters, destructive of valuable life and property, when at last the Maharaja was prevailed upon to withdraw his forces upon the cession of one village and the payment of 200,000 rupees in cash. The treasury of Bikaner was drained to its bottom, to replenish which he had to take recourse to extortion from his subjects. In 1816, during the Pindhari war, he co-operated with the British Government. On 18th March 1818, a treaty was concluded between the Raja of Bikaner and the British Government, by virtue of which the State of Bikaner passed under the British protection. It was agreed upon between both the parties that the Raja should desist from plundering the neighbouring districts; that he should compensate his neighbours for the loss of property caused by these plunders on the borders; that he should, when required, furnish troops to the British Government; and that he should defray the expenses of the troops, lent by the Government for the defence of the State. When the Bikaner territory was invested by gangs of *banditti* the British Government sent a battalion in 1819, for the purpose of extirpating those lawless marauders.

Surat Singh died in 1828. He was succeeded to the throne by his son, Ratan Singh. During his *regime* his subjects, dwelling on the borders of Jaisalmer, carried on extensive plunders within the domains of the neighbouring chief. He marched at the head of his army as far as the gates of the capital of Jaisalmer. The king rushed out with his troops to give him a battle. Jaipur had espoused the cause of Bikaner, and Marwad that of Jaisalmer. Thus the four important states of Rajputana were marshalled against one another; the best Rajput blood was on the point of being shed, and a large portion of Rajputana on the very verge of ruin and desolation. But before the catastrophe was completed, their disputes were referred to the arbitration of Rana Jaswant Singh of Mewad, through the friendly mediation of the British Government. The award of the umpire was that both parties should make good the losses sustained by each side. Thus the matter was settled to the satisfaction of all. The State of Bikaner was, for a long time past, seriously crippled by the risings of its feudatory chieftains, but the Raja, instead of redressing their grievances, behaved towards them in a manner calculated to widen the breach. The whole case was placed before the British Resident at Delhi, in 1830, for his decision. He was prepared to interfere, and even to employ the military if necessary,

but the Governor General specially warned him against lending such military assistance to one party against the other in such petty differences, arising in the internal economy of the Native States. When such was the internal condition of the State, its external relations were far from satisfactory. Jaisalmer had not yet ceased to give her constant trouble. At length, in 1835, an English officer was appointed to bring about an amicable settlement between the two contending States. Through the tact and judgment of this officer their hostile feelings gave way to friendly relations. The Raja, thus relieved from anxiety and troubles in connection with Jaisalmer, then began to encroach upon the borders of the district of Hissar, in the Panjab. Though repeatedly warned, he persisted in his aggressive policy. The Government were then compelled to take recourse to severe and extreme measures.

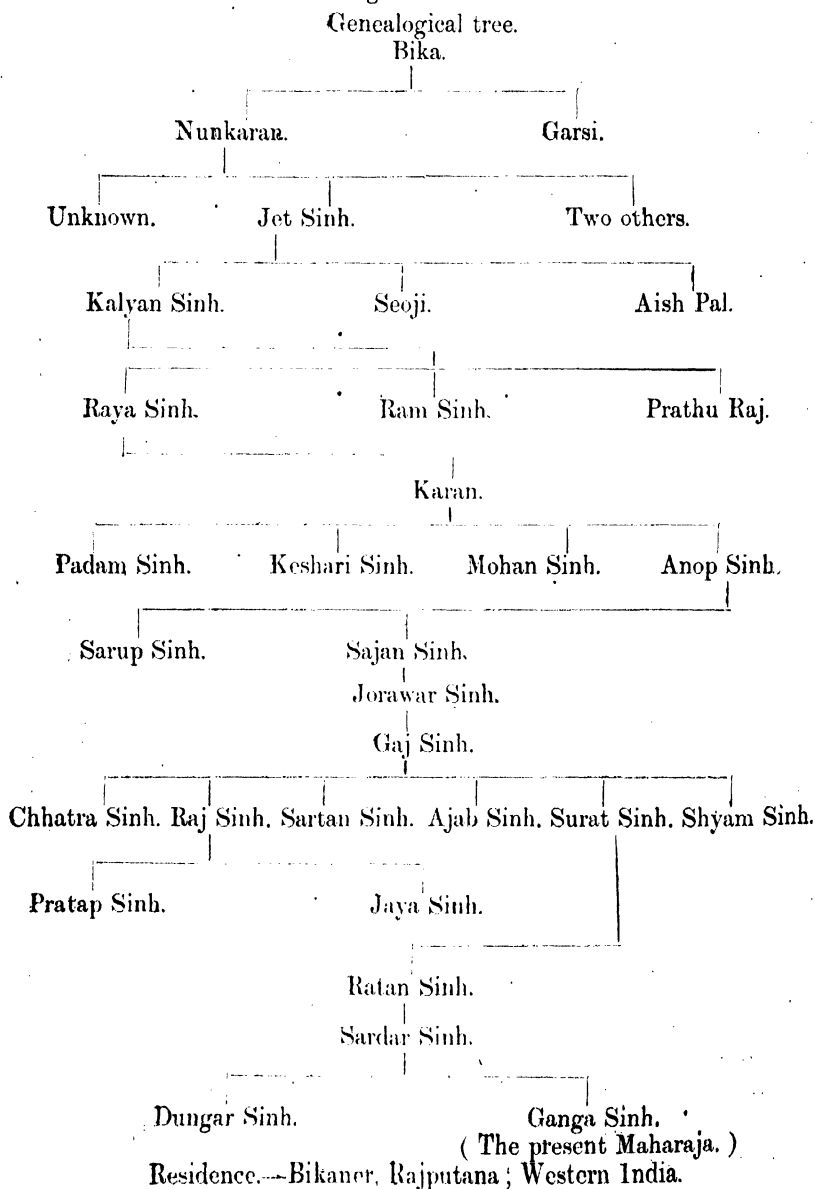
In 1852 Ratan Sinh died. Sardar Sinh next ascended the throne. During the Indian Mutiny, 1857, Raja Sardar Sinh encountered the mutineers in the districts of Hansi and Hissar, and dispersed them; he further took several Europeans under his protection, and treated them with sympathetic kindness. The British Government rewarded this loyalty to the British Crown, with the grant of forty one villages in the district of Sirsa. Though he saw the British authority asserting its supremacy everywhere, he did not terminate his border warfare with the adjoining states; and so far did he once penetrate into the very heart of Marwad that the British Government had to use pressure in restraining his ambition (1861.) The Raja was reminded of the stipulations of the original treaty, he had entered into with the English. Again the tyranny of the Raja on the ryots, residing in the forty one villages ceded to him, was so great that it drew the attention of the Government, and an inquiry was ordered to be instituted in 1867. It was conducted by the Commissioner of Hissar, and during the course of the inquiry it was proved that the same villages which, in 1861, had yielded a revenue of 90,000 rupees yielded within six years 200,000 rupees the increase being evidently caused by the rapacity and extortion of the revenue officers. The final resolution of the Government of India in this matter was that the same system of raising the income, as was in practice when the villages were under British management, should be observed by the Raja, and that able and upright officers should be employed in the collection of the revenue.

Maharaja Sardar Sinh died in the month of May 1872, and was succeeded by Dungar Sinh. One single act on the part of the new Maharaja drew upon him the displeasure of the greater portion of the Rajasthan. Bahadur Sinh, a feudatory vassal of the Court of Bikaner, had in his possession 210 villages, the principal of which was Bidasir. According to Colonel Tod, Bida, and Bika were the sons of Rao Jodha of Marwar. Bida left Mandor and founded a new chieftdom, which was named after him Bidasir. The chief of Bidasir agreed with Raja Ratan Sinh (1858 1852) of Bikaner to pay him annually 50 thousand rupees in lieu of personal service. Maharaja Sardar Sinh (1852-1872), however, demanded, in 1869-80, sixty thousand, which amount was raised by Dungar Sinh to 87 thousand rupees. For this Bahadur and some other chiefs were kept under close surveillance at Bikaner, with the object of compelling them to affix their signatures to a new deed. But when these chiefs swerved not an inch from the bold stand they had taken, an army was sent against Bidasir with peremptory orders to blow up the castle. His personal property was seized; he was deposed and thrown into the prison at Devali. The chieftain submitted a memorial to the Agent, who declined to interfere. The cause of the Thakor's captivity is not still known. In 1883, however, a question was put in the House of Lords by Lord Vivian to the effect whether a revolt had broken out at Bikaner against the Raja; to which Lord Kimberley, the Secretary of State for India, replied, without any information, that it had. Really the matter stood thus:—there was in fact neither a revolt nor a rebellion. When the Agent supported the Raja, the chief left the country and repaired to Jodhpur; Bidasir was then placed under British management. Bahadur was recalled from Jodhpur, and sentenced to two years' imprisonment. The British management of Bidasir lasted for two years, when the son of the chief was recognised as the rightful owner. The matter was brought to the attention of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, but the result is not yet definitely known.

In 1888 the Bikaner Durbar entered into an Agreement with the British Government for the construction of a Railway from Jodhpur to Bikaner. All the capital required for the work was to be provided jointly by the Bikaner and the Jodhpur Durbars. On the 9th December 1891 the entire line was opened to public traffic.

In 1887 Maharaja Dungar Sinh breathed his last. He had no issue, but had previously adopted Ganga Sinh, his only brother, Ganga

Sinh was seven years old when his elder brother died. The British Government confirmed the adoption, and during the minority of the young Maharaja the State is administered by a Council of Regency, presided over by the Political Agent. The young Maharaja is receiving his education at the Mayo College, Ajmere. He has judicial powers of life and death and is entitled to a salute of 17 guns.



BUNDI.

Area.—2,300 sq. miles. Population.—295,675.

Revenue.—800,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the States of Jaipur and Tonk, on the east and south by Kotah, and on the west by Udaipur.

The Maharao Raja of Bundi is a Chauhan Rajput of the Hada family. Rao Deva was the original founder of this chiefdom. A bardic legend is current that Vashishtha Muni produced from the sacrificial pond on Mount Abu four brave Rajputs, representing the four principal tribes—the Parmar, the Solanki, the Padihar and the Chauhan. The descendants of these four men spread themselves far and wide over the country, and became the founders of thirty-six divisions and sub-divisions. The Chauhan hero, generated by the sage on Mount Abu, was otherwise known by the name of Anhal. From this Anhal may be traced the descent of the Hada family. Of the several legends relating to this family, one says that in the line of Anhal, several degrees removed from him, there flourished one chief, named Ishtapal in 1025. In a deadly feud with the Mussalmans, Ishtapal was mortally wounded, and all the bones of his body were smashed to pieces. The tutelary Goddess of the family ran to the rescue, and, arriving on the spot, collected together the scattered pieces of Ishtapal's bones. Muttering some mystic incantation, she poured a handful of water over the heap of bones, and there stood forth Ishtapal in flesh and blood again. To commemorate this note-worthy event his descendants assumed the cognomen of Hadas (Hada = bone). Ishtapal was then reigning at Asir, and Rao Deva, the founder of Bundi, flourished in this renowned family. All the chiefs, who ruled at Asir after the death of Ishtapal, but before the accession of Deva, fell while fighting with the Mahomedans. These vanquished chiefs with their followers used in times of distress to seek shelter in the neighbouring territories of Mewad. In 1342, Rao Deva attacked the Meenas—a predatory tribe—who lay armed near the valley of Bundi, and reducing their strong-hold, established a city on the spot and removed his seat of government thither from Asir. This new capital received the name of Bundi.

In the beginning of the 14th century of the Christian era, Alla-ud-Din Khilji, one of the most powerful Mussalman Emperors of Delhi, led his innumerable host against Chited, and vanquishing its heroic defenders, sacked the city.

The Rana of Mewad was crest-fallen, and taking advantage of the situation, Deva subjugated a portion of the neighbouring territories, and strengthened his own domains. Bundi became from that date independent of Mewad.

No authentic history has come down to us for a period of nearly 200 years that elapsed between the demise of Rao Deva and the installation of Rao Suraj Mal *alias* Surjan. This much however is known that during that period there reigned at Bundi two powerful Chiefs, Rao Hamu and Rao Naran Das.

Of these Hamu flourished in the latter part of the 14th century. The disagreement between the Chief of Bundi and the Rana of Mewad assuming a formidable aspect, the Rana sued for conciliation, and Hamu was sagacious enough to own the supremacy of the Mewad sovereign. Not agreeing, however, like the other *Patawat* chiefs, to serve the Rana at his court, the latter led a powerful army against Bundi. While the Rana lay encamped in the vicinity of Bundi, Hamu with his valiant band of 500 horsemen made a sudden onslaught on the Mewad troops, and dispersed them in a moment like chaff before wind. The Rana grew more furious than ever and vowed vengeance against Bundi. He refused to take food unless the proud Hada lay prostrate at his feet, praying for mercy. The *Patawat* chiefs of Mewad, convinced as they were of the futility of such a vow against the indomitable courage of the Hada Chief and his gallant band, who, they knew, would not budge an inch, even though the ground under them might give way, determined upon devising some scheme to get over the difficulty. At last they hit upon a childish plan of raising a mud fortification near Mewad and naming it Bundi. This being done, the pledge taken by the Rana, it was said, would be fulfilled. In pursuance of their scheme they raised a mimic fort and called it Bundi. A band of Hadas, under the leadership of Kumbho, was serving in the Mewad troops. When they came to know of this trick, they grew wild at the very idea of the Mewadis conquering even that pseudo-Bundi under their eyes, and they forthwith proceeded to the defence of that newly erected fortress, to avert any possible infamy that might thereby be attached to the name of the brave Hadas. Under the command of Kumbho, those gallant scions of the Hada race fell furiously upon the Mewadis, but what could a handful of men do against such fearful odds? Kumbho and his followers were all cut down, and the so-called Bundi stormed. The Rana was so immensely pleased with the valour and patriotism of these brave Hadas that

he gave up for ever the idea of subjugating the real Bundi. Where have gone those brave Rajputs, who would sacrifice their lives on the sacred altar of patriotism and love for their dear mother-land ?

Rana Raya Mal reigned at Chitod from 1474 to 1509. Bundi was during that period under the sway of Rao Naran Das, who was fourth in descent from Hamu Hada. During the two centuries that elapsed between the first establishment of Bundi and the accession of Naran Das the confederacy of Hadavati enjoyed independence, though its rulers often accorded personal homage to the potentates of Mewad and acknowledged their supremacy. The Hada Chief was at times required to lead his troops in support of the Rana against his foes. During Raya Mal's *regime* the Pathans of Mandu in Malwa invaded the stronghold of Chitod. Rao Naran Das was summoned, with his retinue, to march on to Chitod and deliver it from the besiegers. Of Rao Naran Das it has well been said, that he and danger were 'brothers, whelped the same day, and he the elder.' On his way to Chitod with his gallant band of 500 horsemen, he halted at a place in the Rana's territories and pitched his camp on the bank of a pond. The Rao was in the habit of taking enormous doses of opium, and it is recorded of him that he could take at one time 'the weight of seven pice.' After taking his usual dose that day the Rao was enjoying his mid-day siesta under the shade of a huge tree, when a woman from the neighbouring village came to the pond to fetch water. On learning that the man, who was sleeping 'with his mouth wide open, into which the flies had unmolested ingress', was none else than the great Rao of Bundi, proceeding to deliver of Chitod, she jeeringly observed 'If he gets no other aid than his, alas for my prince !' The Rao had sharp ears, and instantly springing from his couch, he went to that woman and roared out, 'What is it that you say, you wretch ?' The woman carried an iron crowbar in her hand, and snatching that off, the Rao placed it round her neck and twisted it with such uncommon strength that the ends met, and it became a collar round the poor woman's neck. The miserable victim of his rage implored him to take it off, but the Rao said, 'Wear this garland for me until I return from aiding the Rana, unless in the interval you find some one strong enough to unbind it.' Rao Naran Das reached Chitod and made a sudden onslaught on the enemy's troops. Confusion and panic seized the Mussalmans who fled in all directions. The Rao with flying colours repaired to the citadel, and paid his homage to the scion of the Sisodiya house. The Rana was overpowered with gratitude and offered the

hand of his niece to the valiant Knight, and the 'nuptials of the Hada and Ketu were celebrated with pomp.' On his way back to Bundi the Rao halted at the same village, where he had garlanded the woman with an iron crow-bar, and calling her to his presence, delivered her from that miserable predicament. After his return to Bundi his opium doses were augmented to such an extent that on one occasion the Rao in his slumber 'scratched his lady instead of himself, and with such severity that he marred the beauty of the Mewadi.' In the morning when he perceived the fearful injury received by the Rani, he grew penitent and swore never to take opium. The noble queen, though much aggrieved, assailed not her lord with reproach, but entreated him with folded arms to give up the nasty habit that had worked the ruin of the brave sons of Ind! From that day he consigned the opium-box to her keeping and thus gained a complete victory over himself.

Suraj Mal, also named Surjan, ascended the Bundi throne in 1533. He was perhaps the immediate successor of Naran Das, though some chroniclers interpose between them a couple of insignificant rulers. The brave Rana Ratna of Mewad came to be at daggers drawn with the Rao, and in a terrible fight between the lord and the vassal, the former was slain (1535). Samat Sinh, a near relation of the Rao, was a brave and daring warrior. It was through him that the Rao obtained possession of the celebrated fortress of Ranthambhor.

This fortification was so advantageously situated that the Grand Moghal Emperor, Akbar, yearned to possess it himself and besieged it on all sides. He lay encamped under its impregnable walls for several months, in the vain hope of taking it by storm. The Moghal arms had already made a havoc in the Rajasthan, and so far-famed a citadel as even Chitod had yielded to their force, yet were they impotent against the walls of Ranthambhor. In 1560 Akbar sent a powerful army against Ranthambhor under the command of Habib Ali. He invested it on all sides, but the attempt proved futile against the valour of the hardy Hadas and the naturally strong situation of the fortress. Habib Ali thereupon retired to the capital after plundering the surrounding regions. Rao Suraj Mal won a name for himself amongst the Rajput Chiefs of the age by his gallant defence of Ranthambhor. Akbar was burning with a desire of obtaining access to the castle and a look into its interior. He prevailed upon Raja Man of Jaipur to seek audience with the Rao, and that being granted, the Grand Monarch accompanied his vassal in the guise of his mace-bearer. The Emperor could not long

preserve his incognito, and being recognised as the Sovereign of Delhi, he was treated with all the consideration due to his high rank and position. Akbar proffered him a large reward for the surrender of Ranthambhor, and an agreement was passed in 1569 between the Mughal Sovereign and the Rao of Bundi to the following effect:—

(1.) That the Rao of Bundi should be exempted from the degrading custom of marrying his daughter to a Mahomedan Sovereign.

(2.) That during the interview between the Rao and the Emperor, the latter should do away with the strict observance of any formality that was derogatory to the dignity of the Rao.

(3.) That the Rao and his attendants should have the privilege of entering the hall of audience completely armed.

(4.) That the Emperor should respect the temples and other sacred edifices within the Rao's dominions.

(5.) That the principality of Bundi should on no account be placèd under the command of any other Hindu leader.

(6.) That their horses should not be branded with the royal mark.*

(7.) That they should be allowed to beat their kettle-drums within the walls of the Imperial Capital as far as the Lal Gate.

(8.) That Bundi should be to the Hadas what Delhi or Agra was to the Mughal Emperors.

(9.) That the Rao, Suraj Mal, should be assigned residence at the sacred city of Benares (Kashi) together with the much cherished right of sanctuary.

(10.) That the Emperor should hand over to the Rao the Government of 52 districts ' whose revenues were to be appropriated without enquiry on furnishing the customary contingent.'

With such a tempting bribe and the full acceptance of all the terms by the Emperor, the Rao cannot be blamed for having surrendered the castle of Ranthambhor to the Emperor Akbar. From that date the Bundi Chief flung off even the nominal allegiance he owed to the Rana of Mewad. Notwithstanding the manifold advantages that Bundi reaped by thus delivering over Ranthambhor to the Great Mughal potentate, the Rajputs, who had the blood of true Kshatriyas running in their veins, did not look upon this act with approbation. The brave Samat Sinh, who was instru-

mental in obtaining possession of that famous citadel for his kinsman-the Rao, felt highly offended and is said to have killed himself in a fit of indignant wrath.

Rana Pratap of Mewad had excommunicated the Chiefs of Jaipur, Marwad, Bikaner and other states, on the ground of defilement caused by giving their daughters in marriage to the Members of the Mughal Royal household, but the Rao of Bundi, who had not resorted to such a degrading course always remained an adherent of the Rana. Suraj Mal was in his later days granted the *Paraganas* (districts) of Benares and Chunar in recognition of the valuable military services rendered to the Mughal cause. The aged Rao spent the last days of his life at Benares in meditation and devoted worship of the deity. He spent large sums of money in erecting works of charity and public usefulness. Under his auspices were constructed 84 temples and edifices for the accommodation of pilgrims, and twenty bathing Ghats were also erected on the sacred river Ganges. It was at Kashi (Benares) that he breathed his last, and according to Hindu notions, obtained Salvation and final beatitude.

Rao Suraj Mal was succeeded by his eldest son, Bhoj Raj. He was as brave as his worthy father. He and his brother were attached to a select body of troops, despatched by Akbar, for the reduction of Gujarat. The Hada brothers, exhibited during the campaign, extraordinary valour and in one of the encounters the Rao with his own hand slew the leader of the enemy. The Rao remained by the side of the Emperor till his death in 1605. Rao Bhoj afterwards retired to his capital, where he, too, expired after a few days.

Bhoj left behind him three sons, Rao Ratan, Harde Narayan and Keshav Das, of whom the eldest, Ratan, ascended the *gadi*. When Shah Jehan raised the standard of revolt against his father, Jehangir, at Burhanpur in 1621, Rao Ratan, inspired by a feeling similar to that of his father, marched with his troops in support of the Emperor, taking with him his two sons, Hari Sinh and Madhu Sinh. The prince took to flight before the sudden onslaught made by the gallant troops of the Hada Chief. During the scuffle the two sons of the Rao were mortally wounded. The Emperor, mightily pleased with the meritorious services performed by the Rao, granted in appanage to Madhu Sinh, the second son of the Rao, the territories of Burhanpur. This grant was in 1625 modified by the bestowal of Kotah and its adjoining regions in lieu of Burhanpur, resumed by the Emperor. This fief is still held by the descendants of Madhu Sinh

and is at this day known by the name of the State of Kotah or a portion of Hadavati. The Emperor, by thus conferring Kotah on Madhu Sinh, made him an independent Chief, not relying on his father for subsistence. Though Madhu Sinh was a cadet of the Bundi house he was by no means subservient to the Rao. As time advanced, Kotah became altogether detached from, and independent of, Bundi.

Rao Ratan was an exemplary prince. He was highly respected by the Mughal and Rajput chiefs of the day. During the time that he sat on the royal cushion at Bundi not a single Mussulman ever dared slaughter a cow in a Hindu quarter. His was a wise and peaceful government. He founded a city and named it after him Ratanpur. The Rana of Mewad held him in high esteem on account of his conciliatory policy.

Rao Ratan was, after his death, succeeded by his grandson, Chhatra Sal, the son of prince Hari Sinh. Before that time Jehangir had died in 1627 and Shah Jehan then held the Imperial sceptre. Rao Chhatra Sal was appointed, by the Emperor, Governor of the Imperial city of Delhi, which place of honour he held till his death. Rao Chhatra Sal was also for a time Deputy Suba of the Deccan under Prince Aurangzeb. During the memorable siege of Kulburg it was the Rao who boldly led the forlorn hope and escaladed the walls of the citadel.

Shah Jehan was taken seriously ill in 1658, and there appeared grave symptoms of a civil war between his sons, Dara, Suja, Aurangzeb and Murad, for the Imperial throne. Aurangzeb was then serving his Subaship in the Deccan, and Rao Chhatra Sal was his deputy. Shah Jehan, though ill, showed extreme anxiety for the preservation of the legitimate rights of his eldest son, Dara. He called away Chhatra Sal from the Deccan and enjoined him to espouse the cause of Dara. Aurangzeb, who was all the while working against the interest of his eldest brother, was loath to part with Chhatra Sal, whom, he knew, the Emperor was summoning to assist Dara. The brave Chhatra Sal, disregarding the displeasure of his immediate superior, repaired to Delhi with his gallant train, and donned the saffron robes with the bold determination of fighting to the last. Aurangzeb wended his way towards the capital, and during the campaign won over Murad to his side. A furious battle was fought between Dara and Aurangzeb near Bharatpur, in which the brave Hadas under the command of Chhatra Sal led the vanguard of Dara's troops. During the heat of the battle Chhatra Sal was pierced by a bullet that struck him in

the forehead, and he fell down dead on the ground. Nothing daunted by this catastrophe his son, Bharat Sinh, assumed the command of the army and continued the fight. The elephant on which Dara rode grew furious on account of bad wounds it received, and Dara got down from that ugly animal. The troopers, seeing the royal elephant without the rider, gave up all courage and began to fly in confusion. Bharat Sinh, the youngest son of Chhatra Sal, nobly maintained the contest for a time. He formed his men into a dense mass and led them to the charge. All his attempts, however, proved futile, and he, with the choicest flowers of his race, was mowed down by the ruthless enemy.

Dara was discomfited and Aurangzeb ascended the Imperial *masnad*. Rao Chhatra Sal was succeeded by Bhav Sinh. According to some, Bhav Sinh was the eldest son of Chhatra Sal, Bharat Sinh, who was slain in the battle of Dholpur, being the youngest. Others allege that Bharat Sinh was the eldest son of Chhatra Sal, and he having departed his life on the field of battle along with his father, his second son, Bhav Sinh, succeeded Chhatra Sal on the Bundi throne. The accession of Aurangzeb on the Imperial throne and the assumption by Bhav Sinh of the government of Bundi took place in 1658. The Moslem ruler 'transferred all the resentment, he harboured against Chhatra Sal, to his son and successor, Rao Bhav Sinh'. He ordered Atmaram, the chief of Shevpur, to work the destruction of Rao Bhav and his turbulent band, the Hada chiefs, and annex Bundi to the district of Ranthambhor. Atmaram invaded Bundi and succeeded in reducing it to submission. The Hadas, however, in their turn, fell upon him with such redoubled fury that Atmaram was compelled to evacuate Bundi and fly for his life. The brave Hadas, not satisfied with this, straightway went to Shevpur and blockaded it. Aurangzeb, instead of resenting this fresh act of audacity on the part of the proud Rao, was so much pleased with the undaunted valour of Bhav and his associates that he sent him a Royal mandate ordering his presence at the Court. The Emperor conferred upon the Rao the vicereignty of Aurangabad. He preserved order and tranquillity throughout the dominions, entrusted to his care, so effectively that no disturbance is recorded to have occurred there during his *regime*. He there erected, throughout his province, large and beautiful edifices of public utility during his term of office. He acquired great renown on account of his valour, liberality and sanctity. Among the most celebrated Rajput rulers of the age, the Mahomedan chroniclers mention the names of Rana Raj Sinh of Mewad, Jaya Sinh of Amber (Jaipur), Jaswant Sinh

of Marwad and the last, though not the least, Rao Bhav Sinh of Bundi.

Rao Bhav Sinh died in 1682, without issue, and was succeeded by Anurad, the grandson of the late Rao's brother, Bhim. The accession of the new Rao was confirmed by the Emperor, Aurangzeb, who, as a mark of esteem towards the house of Bundi, sent on the occasion of his investiture a valuable dress of honour and a richly caparisoned elephant. Rana Jaya Sinh held the sceptre of Mewad in 1681, and a difference arose between him and his son Amar Sinh, who was the nephew (sister's son) of the Rao of Bundi. Amar Sinh took refuge with his uncle, who sent a select band of 10,000 Hadas against Mewad in support of his nephew. Several skirmishes took place between the Hadas and the Rana's troops without any decisive result, when a reconciliation was brought about between the father and the son, and the Hada troops returned to Bundi.

Rao Anurad accompanied Aurangzeb in his expedition to the Deccan in 1683. The Marathas were then in the heyday of their prosperity, and their system of guerilla warfare exasperated the Imperial troops and made them for a time invincible. On one occasion the Begums of the Royal *Zanana* had well-nigh fallen into the hands of the enemy, but they were gallantly rescued by Anurad and his brave followers. His favourite consort being thus saved from degradation by the valiant Knight of Bundi, the Emperor asked him to name his reward. True to Kshatriya instincts, the brave Rao replied that 'he might be allowed to command the vanguard instead of the rear guard of the army.' Subsequently during the invasion of Bijapur in 1686, Aurangzeb showed conspicuous bravery and was able to storm the citadel by the gallantry of the veteran Hadas. While settling the northern possessions of the Empire in the Punjab, Rao Anurad died there, leaving behind him two sons, Budh Sinh and Jodh Sinh.

Anurad was after his death succeeded by his eldest son, Budh Sinh. After the demise of Aurangzeb in 1707 a contest for succession arose among his sons, Muazim, Azim and Kamabaksha. Eventually Muazim succeeded in the struggle, while the latter two were killed. Muazim ascended the Imperial throne, assuming the name of Bahadur Shah. Rao Budh Sinh had espoused the cause of Muazim and it was mainly through his support that he could secure the Royal diadem. (June 1707.) The Emperor rewarded his services by conferring on him the proud title of Rao Raja, and began to look upon him as his best friend and

benefactor. Bahadur Shah died in 1712. His successor, Jahandar Shah, fell a victim to the rage of the powerful Saiyed brothers. Rao Raja Budh Sinh often imperilled his own life in vigorously urging the royal cause in the struggles with the 'King-makers.' While the Rao was thus engaged in the north, Jaya Sinh, the Raja of Jaipur, with the ostensible object of consolidating his chiefdom, but secretly with a view to satisfy some private grudge he bore to the Rao, invaded Bundi and reduced it to subjection. He entrusted the government of Bundi to one, Dael Sinh, the Chief of Kurwar, with the title of Rao Raja. Budh Sinh, when he came to know of all that had happened, retraced his steps to Bundi. The Saiyeds, having thus effected a diversion, gained a complete victory over the Emperor's troops, and succeeded in dethroning Faraukhsiyyar. When Budh Sinh approached the precincts of Bundi, several attempts were made to capture him alive, but against the formidable array of the valiant Hadas, the enemies could not carry out their object. In the struggle that ensued the small band of the Hadas was so much thinned that it was deemed advisable to proceed to Beygoo. From that safe retreat the Rao continued to make inroads upon Bundi, but for a time he was unsuccessful against his more powerful foe. Rao Budh Sinh's cousin, Bhim Sinh, who was then reigning at Kotah, taking advantage of this calamity, conquered all the possessions of Bundi to the east of the river Chambal, and annexed them to his own domains.

Rao Budh Sinh, after many fruitless attempts to regain his throne, died at Beygoo in 1741. His inveterate foe, Jaya Sinh of Amber, had predeceased him only by a few days. At the time of Budh Sinh's death, his eldest son, Rao Umed, was only 13 years old. He, however, assumed command of his brave men and gradually succeeded in recovering all his lost possessions, save Bundi. At last in 1749 they invested Bundi on all sides and took it by storm. Durjan Sal, the Rao of Kotah, taking pity on his unfortunate kinsman, magnanimously supported Rao Umed in recovering his lost patrimony.

The successor of Jaya Sinh, on the Amber throne, determined to humble the pride of the lord of Kotah, who had supported the young Umed in rearing his head against the more powerful lord of Amber. Two powerful factions were thenceforth formed in the Rajasthan, the one headed by the Raja of Jaipur and the other under the leadership of the brave Hada Chiefs of Bundi and Kotah.

Rao Raja Umed had, for long, to pay an annual tribute to the Maharaja of Jaipur. The discontented bands of the predatory Marathas often infested his territories. They plundered and laid waste the whole country and levied imposts from the unfortunate ryots. The Rao lost one district after another, until he was on the verge of being bereft of the whole principality. Rao Umed had grown old, and the constant care and anxiety of protecting his subjects from the inroads of those depredators told fearfully upon his constitution. The all-absorbing thought of wreaking vengeance upon the heads of all those who had taken part in the late usurpation of Bundi by the Chief of Kurwar worked upon his mind day and night. Rao Umed felt his spirits cramped and his energies contracted. To appease his conscience, he determined to abdicate the throne and pass the rest of his days in penitential rites and in traversing in a pilgrim's garb the vast regions of India with a view to visit the sacred shrines of his faith. In 1771, entrusting the government of Bundi to his son, the aged Rao in the garb of a penitent Sadhu, 'traversed every region, from the glacial fountains of the Ganges to the southern promontory of Rameshwar, and from the hot wells of Seeta in Arracan and the Moloch of Orissa to the shrine of the Hindu Apollo at the world's end.' During the course of his pilgrimage he visited all the principal seats of learning. Wherever he went he was welcomed, not as a prince of valiant extraction, but as a sage of purest sanctity. 'He was regarded as an oracle, while the treasures of knowledge, which his observation had accumulated, caused his conversation to be courted and every word to be recorded.' While rambling in the vicinity of Dwarka, intelligence reached him of the untimely demise of his youthful son at Bundi. The courtiers, while conveying that doleful message, entreated him to retrace his steps to his paternal home and superintend the education of his young grand-son, Rao Bishan Sinh. The flattering train of tell-tales and sycophants that always take delight in poisoning the ears of raw and inexperienced princes were not behind hand in alienating the affections and filial obligations of Bishan Sinh towards his venerable grandfather. But the sage, soon after his arrival, was able by means of his persuasive tongue to wipe off any vestige of such profane irreverence. In the beginning of 1804 was tied the first knot of friendship between the ruler of Bundi and the British Government. But the tie was no sooner formed than it was snapped asunder by unforeseen circumstances. On the 17th April 1804 Lord Lake, the commander-in-chief of the British forces, wrote to his lieutenant, Colonel Monson, to direct his course towards Central

India and ascertain the movements of Jaswant Rao Holkar. The unfortunate Colonel proceeded as far as Goodi, but considering it dangerous to continue his onward progress, he, on July 8th 1804, retraced his steps. The Marathas, on being informed of Monson's retreat, pursued him hotly and overtook him near the dangerous valley of Makundra, between Kotah and Neemuch. The Marathas made a fearful onslaught, which exposed Colonel Monson and his battalion to the imminent peril of losing their lives. Monson contrived to escape to Kotah, but no shelter being given him there by the reigning prince, he hastened to Bundi. Rao Umed extended a friendly hand and gave shelter to the British army within the walls of his capital. The English Government promised to repay this act of kindness on the part of the Rao, and the annual tribute of 80,000 rupees, here-to-fore paid to the English from the Bundi treasury was forthwith remitted. A formal treaty was concluded with the Rao, by which he was given possession of the fortification of Patna on his agreeing to pay every year a sum of Rs. 40,000, on account of the one-third share reserved to Sindhia therein.

Rao Umed lay prostrate on his death-bed, writhing under the consciousness of his inability to reward the love and devotion of his brave clansmen, who always stood by his side in weal and woe. The other thorn that pierced his dying heart was the unfulfilment of his pledge of vanquishing the ungrateful Marathas. 'Thus in 1804, Umed Sinh closed a varied and chequered life: the Sun of his morning rose amidst clouds of adversity, soon to burst forth in a radiant prosperity; but scarcely had it attained its meridian glory ere crime dimmed its splendour and it descended in solitude and sorrow.'

Rao Umed was succeeded by his grandson, Bishan Sinh. He proved a valiant and an excellent prince. Bundi is so well situated that when the Pindharis were flying all about the country in 1817, they got themselves entrapped within the defiles of Bundi and fell into the hands of the English officers, specially deputed to apprehend these freebooters. Once it so happened that these officers, after dispersing some four or five small bands of Pindharis, obtained scent of a large gang, assembled somewhere near their camp, apportioning their booty. The English at once ran to the spot, but the depredators escaped. While flying they found themselves hemmed in within the boundaries of Bundi. The Rao heartily supported the English in capturing the fugitives, and had it not been for his help they would have escaped the clutches of law and justice. In return for the valuable services thus rendered to the cause of humanity, the Supreme Govern-

ment unconditionally restored to Rao Bishan Sinh several districts, misappropriated by Holkar, nearly 50 years back, in the time of Rao Umed. That portion of the territory which was in the possession of Sindhia was restored to the Rao under certain stipulations. It has already been mentioned that Bhim Sinh of Kotah, availing himself of the misfortunes of his cousin, Budh Sinh of Bundi, had thought it proper to encroach upon some of his domains, and the English Government allowed the Kotah Chief to retain those possessions.

The most important treaty between the Paramount Power and the Rao of Bundi was signed in 1818, by which the Rao agreed to own allegiance to the British Throne. Bishan Sinh was sagacious and upright in all his dealings. Without giving himself up to the 'vain pomp and glory of this world', he led a life of pure simplicity. He was a very skilful sportsman. It is said of him that while hunting he would remain day and night at the mouth of a lion's den, and would refuse to leave it unless he had shot the terrible beast on its issuing out of its lair. He always took delight in lion-hunting. He never indulged in killing innocent beasts such as the deer, hare or the jackal. He is recorded to have hunted no less than one hundred lions. Of the tigers, bears, wolves and wild boars killed by him there was no reckoning. When Raja Man Sinh of Marwad sequestered the *jagirs* of some of his courtiers and turned them adrift, it was Rao Bishan, who made a liberal provision for them at his own court.

Rao Bishan Sinh breathed his last at Bundi on 14th May 1821. He was succeeded by his son, Ram Sinh, then a mere boy, aged eleven years. During his nonage the administration was conducted by Vohora Shambhu Ram, the trusted Diwan of his late father. When the Rao Raja attained his twentieth year in May 1830, an incident occurred which seriously strained the relations, hitherto amicable between the States of Bundi and Marwad. Ram Sinh was married to a princess of the Marwad house. She was a refractory and un-Kshatriya-like girl, and her father sent a train of 300 of his courtiers to upbraid her for her past misconduct and set her right in future. These men lay encamped outside the walls of Bundi. Hardly were they there for three days when Kishan Ram, the wise and honest Minister of Bundi, who had succeeded Shambhu Ram in the office, was found brutally murdered, and the suspicion of that foul deed rested on the head of a man in the Jodhpur train. Kishan Ram had, during the six years of his administration, not only extricated the State from a heavy burthen of debt in which he had found it involved, but enhanced its revenues from three

to five lakhs of rupees a year, by introducing healthy reforms in the cultivation of the soil. Rao Raja Ram Sinh, fuming with rage at the indignity thus offered him, resolutely determined to avenge the dastardly murder of his devoted minister, and peremptorily ordered the chief officer in charge of the Jodhpur Camp to deliver up the miscreant, who had perpetrated the foul deed. The Jodhpuris not surrendering the culprit within the prescribed time, Ram Sinh ordered his troops to march against them and invest their camp on all sides. A brisk cannonading was kept up for three days, and all supplies of provision stopped. Two of the ring-leaders, who were suspected of having abetted the murder, were arrested while flying, and killed on the spot. The survivors eventually surrendered themselves to the Rao, who drove them away beyond the limits of Bundi. Bakhat Sinh, a chief of the Jodhpur Court, who had solemnly pledged himself to the act of murdering Kishan Sinh, killed himself on the sixth day after the occurrence of this tragic event. Thus did the Rao Raja avenge the death of his well-meaning and faithful premier. This rupture would have culminated in an open war between the rival States, but their common friends, the English, intervened and brought about an amicable settlement of all their disputes and bickerings.

During the great Indian Mutiny of 1857, Rao Raja Ram Sinh setting aside the solemn pledge of loyalty, given by his father, to the British Crown, joined the bands of the traitorous rebels. His wife—a woman of singular prudence and foresight—saw the folly of his determination and openly espoused the cause of the British Government. As soon as she was informed of the sufferings of the helpless and innocent English ladies and babes, wandering in the neighbouring jungles, exposed to the scorching heat of the Sun during the day, and intense cold during the night, without a morsel of food or drop of water, her generous feelings for the cause of humanity were excited; and fearless of incurring the displeasure of her husband, she at her own expense provided these unfortunate sufferers with food, water, clothing and other requisites. All this was done without the knowledge of the Rao, whose sympathies were with the mutineers. At last these helpless wanderers, through the kindly support of this beneficent lady, found their way to Delhi, where they took refuge under the English arms. The tie of friendship, which had so long bound the British and the Bundi rulers, was owing to this unfortunate incident ruptured for a time. But the Rao, repenting for his past folly, was in 1860 once more taken under theegis of British protection. In 1862 the English Government conferred on

the Rao the right of adoption.

In 1869 an extradition Treaty was concluded between the British Government and the Bundi State. This Treaty provided for the mutual surrender of persons charged with certain specified offences. In 1885 this Treaty was modified by a supplementary Agreement. By this it was arranged that in cases of extradition from British India to the Bundi State the procedure, prescribed by the law as to the extradition of offenders for the time being in force in British India, should be followed.

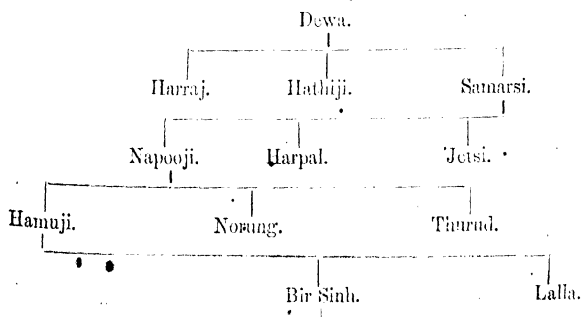
Rao Raja Ram Singh was present at the Imperial Assemblage held at Delhi on January 1st 1877, under the presidency of His Excellency Lord Lytton, the Viceroy, on the occasion of the assumption by Her Majesty Queen Victoria of the proud title of the Empress of India. The Rao was honored with the dignified title of the Counsellor of the Empire. The Viceroy also invested him with the title of the 'Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India'. The Maha Rao was, on the 1st January, also declared ex-officio Companion and Member of the Order of the Indian Empire.

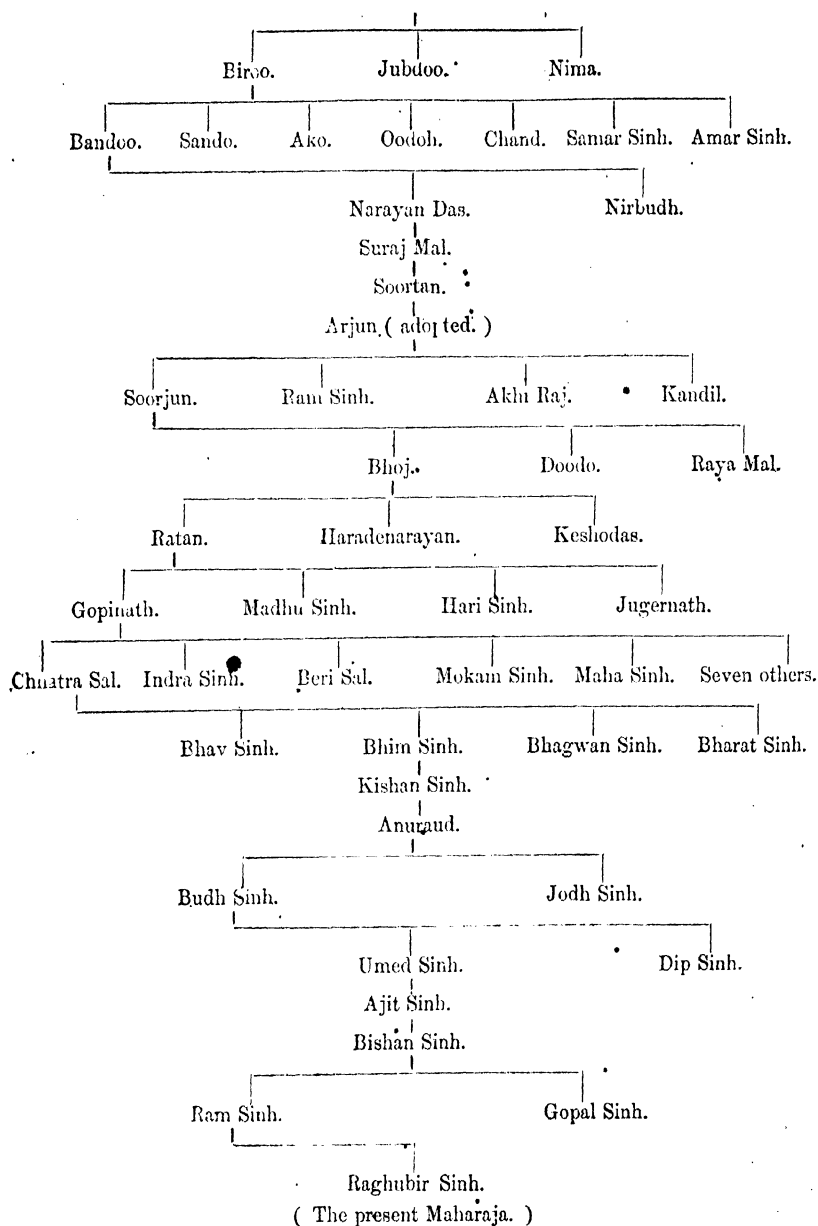
In 1881 an Agreement (the Salt Agreement) was made, by which His Highness the Maha Rao Raja of Bundi agreed to suppress the manufacture of Khari salt, to prevent the export and import of any salt other than that upon which duty has been levied by the British Government, and to abolish all State duties on salt.

Maha Rao Raja Ram Singh expired on 8th March 1887. His eldest son, Maharaj Kunwar Raghubir Singh, succeeded him. On the 9th January 1890, he was invested with full governing powers.

His Highness the Maha Rao Raja of Bundi has judicial powers of life and death, and is entitled to a salute of 17 guns.

Genealogical tree.





Residence.—Bundi, Hadavati Agency; Rajputana.

COCHIN.

Area.—1,361 sq. miles. Population.—722,906.

Revenue.—17,00,000 rupees.

The State, though styled Cochin, has its capital in Trichur, the town and fortress of Cochin being in the possession of the British Government. It claims a very remote antiquity, though its ancient history has not travelled down to us. As in Travancore, the law of succession there differs materially from that in the other native states. It is not governed by the law of primogeniture, but the brother of the deceased monarch succeeds him to the throne, his son not ranking even as an heir. In the absence of a brother the nephew (sister's son) ascends the *gali*. If there is no sister's son, the grand-son (daughter's son) inherits the estate. Succession is thus traced through females.

The rulers are Dasa Vamsi Chhetiyar Kshatriyas, and are descended from the Travancore stock. Their ancestors were feudatories to the Zamorin of Malbar, whom they paid tribute. When the State of Malaya was divided, Cochin was set apart as an independent principality by one Cheruma Perumal, whose descendant still reigns at Trichur. Cheruma Perumal was the governor of Kerola (Chera), which comprised within its limits the provinces of Travancore and Malbar in the 16th century of the Christian era. He afterwards threw up his subordinate position, and became independent of his suzerain. The Portuguese† in 1498 first landed at Calicut on the Malabar coast in southern India for the purposes of trade. The Zamorin of Malbar accorded them permission in 1580 to build a factory in the vicinity of Calicut, but it was subsequently demolished by him. The Portuguese General, Cabral, retaliated the injury by destroying the King's capital, together with the ships of war, riding at anchor in the harbour, and finally retired to the sea-port town of Cochin. The ruler of Cochin, though owing allegiance to the Zamorin, was on hostile terms with him. The Portuguese built a factory at Cochin and carried on commerce with their mother-land. The harbour of Cochin afforded them great many facilities. The Zamorin twice invaded Cochin, but had

* Cochin is a seaport town in the possession of the English. Its capital is in Trichur, though the whole State is known by the name of Cochin.

† The Portuguese have come from Portugal in Europe. They first landed on the shores of India in 1498, and carried on commerce between this country and Portugal. Afterwards they conquered some territories and established their capital at Goa. They were finally put down by the Dutch. They have now in their possession Goa, Daman and Div.

to turn back unsuccessful owing to the substantial help rendered by the Portuguese to their patron and friend. The Chief of Cochin, who was hitherto subordinate to the Zamorin, now threw up his allegiance and sought the protection of his new allies—the Portuguese. They first erected the fort of Cochin. Their power was materially crippled by the Dutch* in the year 1605. They came from Holland in Europe and established themselves at the port of Chinsura, on the banks of the Hugli in Bengal. In 1662 they marched upon their rivals, the Portuguese, and conquered from them the town and fort of Cochin. It reached the zenith of prosperity during the time it was held by them and exclusively commanded the commerce of that part of the country. The Dutch left untouched the territory of the native king, though they expelled their European competitors from the town of Cochin.

In 1759, the Zamorin of Malbar invaded Cochin at the head of a large army. Vanji Bavla Perumal, the chief of the neighboring State of Travancore, ran with his troops to the rescue of his brother, the chief of Cochin, and the Zamorin was obliged to return to his capital without gaining his object. The Chief of Cochin in recognition of this timely support ceded a portion of his dominions to the Maharaja of Travancore. He was able to maintain his independence till the year 1736. Haidar, the adventurous *Nayak* in the troops of Mysore, who in 1761 deposed the Hindu King, and assumed in his hands the sole authority, marched upon Cochin in 1776. He succeeded in his expedition, though he allowed the Chief to retain possession of his territory, on condition of his paying the annual tribute. Haidar was after his death succeeded by his son, Tipu, on the throne of Mysore. In the war with the English in 1790, Tipu's arms met with successive reverses, and Perumal Tamburan, the Chief of Cochin, throwing up his homage to the Mysore Crown, acknowledged the supremacy of the British Government. In 1793, he entered into negotiations with the Honorable East India Company, by which he agreed to pay to the English an yearly tribute of one *lakh* of rupees, which he had hitherto

* The Dutch came from Holland and destroying the commerce of their rivals, the Portuguese, they gradually extended their maritime power in the eastern seas. They fought several naval engagements with the English. They first raised their factory in India at Palkollu, on the Madras coast. They conquered the Portuguese possessions on the Malbar coast in 1664. They were very strict in their relations with the native merchants. The English attacked them in 1758 at Chinsura, and dealt a strong blow to their supreme power. The English conquered the Dutch possessions from 1793 to 1811.

paid to Haidar and his son, Tipu. The English then turned their eyes to the Dutch, whom they had once vanquished in the year 1758; and during a war with that power, which lasted from 1793 to 1811, the English conquered from them the fort of Cochin. They, however, made no material change in the laws, framed by the Dutch, governing the transactions of its inhabitants. The Chief recognized the sovereignty of the English, and scrupulously adhered to the terms agreed upon in 1798, by a regular payment of the stipulated tribute as long as Tipu reigned at Mysore. After his death in 1799, the Hindu chief of Cochin reared his head against the English by openly defying their authority. In 1807 the discontented Diwan of Travancore ordered some of the British soldiers to be drowned at the port of Alpai. The Diwan of Cochin entered into a correspondence with his contemporary at Travancore, and raised a large army for the destruction of the British Resident and his followers. They in 1809 boldly attacked the English troops, but were repulsed with a heavy loss. Thus foiled in his attempts, the Chief concluded a fresh treaty with the Paramount Power, by which it was agreed to place a British contingent in the State of Cochin. To meet the expenses of this army the annual tribute of one *lakh* was raised to 276,637 rupees, to be paid in six instalments. The Chief was also prohibited from employing any European in his service without the previous consent of the British Government. The work of conducting the administration was assumed by the English, while a portion of the territory was set apart for the private use of the reigning Chief. The yearly income of the State then amounted to 4 *lakhs* and 80 thousand rupees (480,000 Rs.) out of which more than half went to the British coffers in the shape of tribute. This raised a general discontent throughout the province. The Resident of Cochin saw the necessity of arrogating to himself the powers of the Diwan and of interfering with the internal management of the State. Even under the improved administration Cochin showed no signs of material prosperity. In 1819, the amount of tribute was reduced to 2 *lakhs* and 40 thousand rupees, which subsequently went down to 2 *lakhs*, still paid from the Cochin treasury. The Resident introduced several important reforms in agriculture and commerce, which considerably enhanced the revenues of the State, which now amount to rupees 14 *lakhs* a year.

In 1814, the Dutch abandoned their control and mastery over the fort of Cochin in favour of the English. Many Dutch settlers are to be met within the territory of Cochin even at the present day. In 1839, the British Resident, owing to the misgovernment of the Raja, had once more

the unpleasant necessity of depriving him of his power and assuming the sole administration to himself. This interference on the part of the British further increased the prosperity of the State.

In 1853, Ravi Warma ascended the *gadi* of Cochin. He was a wise and liberal prince, and during his reign the State advanced materially owing to the several reforms introduced by him in all the Departments of the administration. He constructed several works of public utility within his realm, such as roads, canals and bridges. He also gave a fair stimulus to trade and commerce, abolishing many of the custom duties levied at the port of Cochin on exports and imports.

Raja Ravi Warma died in the year 1864, and was succeeded by Raja Rama Warma. He was born in 1835. He was, in 1871, invested with the *insignia* of a Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India. He was himself a good scholar in Sanskrit. The Rajas of Cochin have obtained from the British Government a deed of adoption, by which, in the absence of a natural born heir, they are empowered to adopt one without payment of a succession duty. H. H. Raja Rama Warma K. C. S. I. repaired to Madras on the 13th December 1875 to pay his respects to H. R. H. The Prince of Wales. The Royal guest received the Raja with rare distinction and warmly shook hands with him.

In 1888, Raja Rama Warma expired, and the succession, as usual, devolved upon his younger brother Vira Kerala Warma. He had been knighted as a Commander of the Most Exalted Order of India, even while he was an heir-apparent. His Highness Raja Sir Vira Kerala Warma is the present ruling Chief, and is now aged 50. He enjoys full civil and criminal powers, and in his case, the India Government have accorded to the Cochin courts some limited jurisdiction even over European British subjects, residing in Cochin.

The Maharaja of Cochin has been granted the right of adoption, and receives a salute of 17 guns.

Genealogical tree.

Ravi Warma.

Raja Rama Warma.

Vira Kerala Warma.

(The present Maharaja.)

Residence.—Trichur, Madras Presidency; Southern India.

KARAULI.

Area.—1,208 sq. miles. Population,—148, 670.

Revenue.— 500,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the south-west and west by Jaipur, and on the north and north-east by the States of Bharatpur and Dholpur respectively.

The rulers of Karauli are Rajputs of the Yadav clan, and are said to have descended from Shri Krishna, of divine origin. They also claim to be styled " Chandravamshi " or " Moon-born." The early history of the Rajas of Karauli down to the decline and fall of the Mughal Empire is but a blank page in the story of native chiefs, and thus the exploits of its early chieftains remain shrouded in dark oblivion; although it has come to light that the first personage in the pedigree was Bijai Pal, who built the fort of Biana in 995. There flourished one, Arjun Deo, in 1348, in the line of Bijai Pal, who founded Karauli and made it his capital. Several kings succeeded to the Karauli throne after the death of Arjun Deo; but their names are unknown. In the year 1546, Gopal Das, a descendant of Arjun Deo, ascended the throne, who, dying in 1570, was succeeded by Mukund, Jagoman, Chhatarman, Dharam Pal, Ratan Pal, Kumar Pal, Gopal Sinh, Tursam Pal, and Maneck Pal, respectively. The first trustworthy notice of their doings, which History has recorded, reveals the fact that they were feudal retainers at the court of the mighty Peshwas and were bound to pay tribute of twenty five thousand a year. In 1817 when the Peshwa fell and his power was entirely transferred to the British, Karauli and the other dependent principalities, which were in fealty to the court of Poona, readily paid their homage to the English, who were acknowledged by them as the Paramount Power in India. Harbaksha Pal, a successor of Maneck Pal was on the throne of Karauli at the time, who entered into a league with the British Government; by the terms of which, the latter, as the suzerain lords of India, guaranteed to protect the rulers of the State and to secure

them and their descendants in the possession of their dominions which they held at the time. Harbaksha Pal had long set his mind upon regaining certain tracts of land to the south of the Chambal, which had once belonged to the State, but had since been seized by the self-aggrandising Sindhias of Gwalior. In conformity with the terms of the above compact he pressed the English for help; but his overtures were disregarded by the Supreme Government in consequence of their greater desire to pull on well with Sindhia. Harbaksha Pal resented this cold reception of his suit; and with a view to achieve his cherished object, he resolved upon resorting to the ancient practice of his progenitors, to wage a deadly war and to kill or be killed. From that time the Raja began to eye the English with suspicion, and his relations with the Paramount Power were now cold and frigid. The year 1825 was one, full of trouble and annoyance to the English Government; they were dragged into a fierce war with the King of Burmah; they had also, at the same time, to support their ally the Raja of Bharatpur, whose dominions were distracted by a revolt headed by one Durjan Sal, his relative. Taking undue advantage of this unfavourable state of affairs, Harbaksha Pal declared open hostilities with the English, and collecting a large army under his banner, went over to the side of Durjan Sal, the rebel. When the rebellion, however, was crushed and their troops dispersed over the land, the Raja had to repent of his stupid exhibition of infidelity and to submit himself to the mercy of the English. The latter treated the Raja's foolish defection only with contempt and scorn and speedily accorded him full pardon. From the gentle admonition he received at the time and much more from the generous treatment he experienced at their hands, the Raja learnt a wholesome lesson and he was thenceforth unswervingly loyal to the British Government. Soon after this certain disputes between Karauli and Jaipur as to their respective boundaries and rights were amicably settled. Subsequently Harbaksha Pal, with his amity with the surrounding States thus fully restored, expired in 1838.

Raja Harbaksha Pal left no issue behind him to inherit his dignities and power, and Pratap Pal, one of his relative princes, was, in consequence, raised to the *gadi* of Karauli. At this juncture the Queen-dowager declared that she was *enceinte* ; and a few days after, reports were circulated to the effect that she had given birth to a prince and heir to the throne. Pratap Pal suspected that the child was spurious and protested against his being thus passed over in favour of a bastard. A commission was appointed by the British Government to inquire into the legitimacy of the child, which reported that the rumours spread abroad by the widow about her being in the family way were absolutely false and that the child was unmistakably a got-up one. The final resolution of the Governor-General, in this connection, was published at the close of the year, 1839, and at the out-set of the following, Pratap Pal was confirmed on the *gadi* of Karauli. The widowed Rani was much humiliated at this rebuff; but she saw that she had really concocted a false story and as the true blood of an honest Rajputani ran in her veins, she was much ashamed of the intrigue; and precipitately leaving Karauli, she settled herself at Bharatpur.

Raja Pratap Pal had risen to the throne from an humble birth and a low status in life. Schooled as he was in adversity, he had not, however, benefited by the experience derived therefrom ; he abused his power and tyrannised over his subjects with a view to extort money out of their coffers. It is also said that the Minister, in his time, instigated the Raja to resort to this means of raising money by a system of oppression, which ground down the poor ryots. The Raja expired after an inglorious rule of eight years, during which the tyrant's evil temperament, constantly scheming to eke out money from the unfortunate people, scarcely allowed him any peace of mind or body. General complaints of his oppression were often so loud that on four different occasions during the short space of his reign the English had to interfere and depute special officers to inquire into the causes of the wide-spread disorder at Karauli.

Raja Pratap Pal departed this life in 1848. He, too, left no progeny after him, and the relations of the Chief were again put into requisition to supply an heir to the throne. The choice of the English Government at last descended upon a stripling, of the name of Narsinh Pal, who was, for the time, raised to the throne. The State had, however, run into an enormous debt, exceeding somewhat the perplexing amount of one hundred and fifty thousand rupees. The British Government exacted an

undertaking from Narsinh Pal that he would soon discharge this heavy burden, and at the time of his installation, his punctual repayment of the first instalment of the debt was made a *sine qua non* of his being confirmed on the *gadi*. The guardian of the minor Narsinh Pal came forth with the promised repayment only after the expiration of the period, fixed for the first instalment; while at the same time another kinsman of the deceased Chief was forth-coming, who avowed to the English his capability to remit even larger sums, and that too at shorter intervals than what Narsinh Pal had stipulated. Besides this, the accession of the young Raja to the throne of Karauli had given rise to hostile factions at the capital, which disputed with each other the right of guardianship of the minor prince; and their mutual quarrels, which raged high at the time, threatened to plunge the State into turmoil and trouble. There were some dissentients; who even went to the length of not admitting Narsinh Pal's right to the *gadi*, and fears were constantly entertained that they would one day substantiate their arguments with the prowess of their swords. All these considerations, at last, urged the English Government to revoke the agreement, entered into at the time Narsinh Pal was installed, and they now thought of deposing this minor Chief. His guardian vehemently protested against the contemplated iniquity and dwelt upon the injustice of the compact being annulled, when he was on his part ready and willing to pay the instalments at the proper time. The intended dethronement had also occasioned extreme trouble in the State, and numerous intrigues were carried on for the right of succession to the throne. The remedy which had been suggested by the English, was thus worse than the malady, and with a view to avert greater mischief, Narsinh Pal was at last permanently confirmed on the *gadi*, but a British Political Agent was also forced upon the State in order to secure to the people the blessings of good government even under that weak monarch.

Raja Narsinh Pal, after his nominal rule of four years, expired in 1852. He died without having ever in reality wielded the sceptre he nominally held. The young prince had no issue; consequently Bharat Pal, a distant kinsman, was adopted by him on the day preceding his demise. The Government of India did not recognise this adoption, and were of opinion that if the princes of Karauli were allowed such a right to adopt, the heroic and chivalrous blood of its ancient chiefs would cease to be preserved in the veins of their descendants, and the purity of the race would suffer by an admixture with low and alien births. They therefore

recommended that the adoption in question should be declared null and void. The Home Government, however, held a different view, and reversing their judgment, they sanctioned the adoption of Bharat Pal. This new occupant of the throne had also not attained years of discretion, and taking advantage of his minority, the English made some very suitable and salutary arrangements for the proper administration of the State. A Political Agent was also again stationed at Karauli to watch the progress of good government in the State and guard the interests of the people. When these reforms were being meditated and the scheme of securing good government was being adjusted, several disaffected and turbulent spirits, who were all the while conspiring in the dark against their ruler, emerged from their retreats, and lodged a vehement protest against the adoption of Bharat Pal. His adoption was contested on the ground that he had been only a very remote kinsman and that the religious ceremonies prescribed by the texts of the Hindu scriptures were not rigidly observed in his case; that Madan Pal was a nearer relative, and consequently better entitled to succeed to the throne. Bharat Pal's adoption was also sought to be set aside by the chiefs of Jaipur, Alwar, Bharatpur, and Dholpur, who also jointly supported the claims of Madan Pal, which they advocated with great interest. An enquiry was instituted, which also brought to light Madan Pal's stronger title to the heirship; and the widowed Ranis of the deceased Chiefs in the realm, as well as the prominent courtiers and Sardars of the State with one voice demanded the installation of Madan Pal on the *gadi* of Karauli. Submitting to this popular feeling, the English cancelled the adoption of Bharat Pal, and the popular Madan Pal was seated on the throne in 1854.

At the time of Madan Pal's ascension on the *gadi*, the Political Agent of Karauli was strongly advised by the Government not to interfere with the internal affairs of the realm, and the following year, the very agency was abolished and the officer posted to another court. At the time, however, when the English Government thus expressed their feeling of confidence in Madan Pal's firmness and ability, they also distinctly gave him to understand that they would brooke with no remissness on his part in the liquidation of the State-debts. The once heavy and formidable liabilities of the State had now dwindled down to the comparatively small sum of ninety-five thousand rupees; and the Chief had to give an undertaking to the effect that he would be scrupulously punctual in the payment of his yearly instal-

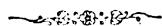
ments, on pain of losing one district or more, which the English threatened to sequester and retain under their own management, till all the debts of the State were absolutely discharged.

In 1857, at the time of the great Mutiny Madan Pal lent a hearty support to the English, and gave shelter and protection to many of their distressed fugitives, who were all securely harboured in the State, or placed in safe retreats beyond the vengeance of their blood-thirsty pursuers. The Raja had to incur heavy expenses on this score, and the State-debts had, consequently, been swollen to the large sum of one hundred and seventeen thousand rupees; but bearing in mind the many personal sacrifices of the Chief, during the season of the Mutiny, a major portion of the debt was relinquished by the Supreme Government. The salute of honour, to which the Chiefs of Karauli were entitled, was also enhanced from 15 to 17 in appreciation of the loyal services of Raja Madan Pal, who was also decorated with a rich dress of honour.

In 1859, the State again suffered from impoverished and exhausted resources; its pecuniary condition was disheartening and fresh debts were being largely incurred. To settle these monetary affairs, the British Government again posted a Political Agent at the court of Karauli; but the officer was expressly instructed to maintain amicable relations with the Chief, who had so gallantly assisted the English in their trouble during the Mutiny. Two years later, when the desired purpose was achieved and the continued residence of the Political Agent was no longer required, he was instantly recalled by his Government, which never wished unnecessarily to hamper the Chief's liberty of action. Maharaja Madan Pal was also created a Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, in due recognition of the yeoman service which he rendered to the Paramount Power in the troublous times of the great Rebellion.

Maharaja Madan Pal breathed his last in 1869, after a capable rule for fifteen years. As he left no son to mourn his loss, his nephew, Lakshman Pal—the chief of Haraouti, was chosen to succeed to the throne; but the prince elect died all of a sudden before his installation could take place. Thereupon Jayasinh Pal—born in the line of Kirat Pal—a younger son of Maharaja Dharam Pal—one of the royal ancestors, was selected by all the influential Thakors and Sardars to occupy the vacant *gadi*. His elevation to the throne was approved of by the Supreme Government. In 1874, Maharaja Jayasinh Pal, with a view

to attain fresh and enlarged experience, set out on a visit to foreign lands and travelled down to Agra. In the month of March, that year he was present at Delhi, where the other Rajput princes had repaired to exchange friendly visits with the Viceroy; and thence he again returned to his capital, gratified with his stately reception, and struck with the new world of novel experiences and amusing sights that he had just left behind. Jayasinh Pal expired in the month of December 1875, leaving no issue behind. Arjun Pal, the Rao of Haraoti, was, in consequence, next called to inherit the throne. On the 1st January 1877 when the Viceroy, Lord Lytton, presided over the Grand Assemblage of crowned heads at Delhi to celebrate the assumption of the title of 'Kaisar-i-Hind' or "Empress of India," by her Majesty Queen Victoria, Arjun Pal had also graced the occasion by his presence there. Arjun Pal, after a short career, breathed his last in 1886. He was succeeded by Bhonvar Pal Deo, who is the present Maharaja, reigning at Karali. His Highness has judicial powers of life and death and enjoys a salute of 17 guns.



Genealogical tree.

Gopal Das, Dwarka Das, Mukand, Jagoman, Chhatarman, Dharam Pal, Ratan Pal, Kumar Pal, Gopal Sinh, Tursam Pal, Manek Pal, Harbaksha Pal and.—

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Pratap Pal (adepted)
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Narsingh Pal ( " )
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Madan Pal ( " )
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Jayasinh Pal ( " )
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Arjun Pal ( " )
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Bhonvar Pal ( " )

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(The present Maharaja.)

Residence.—Karali, Rajputana; Western India.

KOTAH.

Area.—5,000 sq. miles. Population.—450,000.

Revenue.—25,00,000 rupees.

The territory of Kotah is bounded on the north by the Native States of Bundi, Jaipur and Gwalior, on the east by the territories of Gwalior, on the south by Jhalawad and Malwa and on the west by Bundi, Mewad and Rampura under Indore.

The rulers of Kotah are, like those of Bundi, Chauhan Rajputs of the Hada tribe. The history of Kotah begins with Madhu Sinh, the second son of Rao Ratan of Bundi. As mentioned in the annals of Bundi, Rao Ratan with his two sons, Hari Sinh and Madhu Sinh, proceeded with their troops to join the Emperor, Jehangir, when his son, Shah Jehan, raised the standard of revolt at Burhanpur in 1621. The prince had to pay dearly for his unfilial conduct, for which he suffered at the hands of the veteran soldiers under the command of these Hada chiefs. Shah Jehan was compelled to fly, but the two Hada princes, Hari Sinh and Madhu Sinh, were severely wounded in the encounter. The Emperor rewarded the gallant and faithful services of the Rao by conferring on his second son, Madhu Sinh, the fief of Burhanpur. It was, however, exchanged in 1625 for Kotah and its surrounding districts. This appanage is still held by the descendants of Madhu Sinh. The Emperor by bestowing Kotah upon Madhu Sinh made him independent of his father. Though a cadet of the Bundi house, he was granted all the powers and privileges of an independent chief. 'In this,' says Col. Tod 'Jehanghir did not act without design; on the contrary, he dreaded the union of so much power in the hands of this brave race as pregnant with danger, and well knew that by dividing, he could always rule both, the one through the other.'

When the Emperor granted to Madhu Sinh the fief of Kotah and its dependencies, it consisted of 360 villages with an annual income of 2 lakhs of rupees. Madhu Sinh assumed the title of Rao and began to administer the affairs of his new acquisition. He enhanced the territorial extent of his dominions which ranged from the outskirts of Bundi to Malwa in the south.

After a rule of 32 years, Rao Madhu Sinh expired in 1657, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Mukund Sinh. Within a short time of his accession the Emperor, Shah Jehan, was taken seriously ill and a contest

for succession arose among his sons, Dara, Suja, Aurangzeb, and Murad, (1658). The eldest of these, Dara, was opposed by Aurangzeb and Murad, who had coalesced together. In these civil dissensions the princes of the Rajasthan ranged themselves on one side or the other. Maharaja Jaswant Singh of Marwad took up arms on behalf of Dara, while Rao Mukund Singh espoused the cause of Aurangzeb. The contending armies met near Ujjain, where a fearful battle decided the fates of the rival princes. Rao Mukund Singh and his four brothers put on the saffron robe and entered the field, attended by their brave associates. True to their past antecedents, these valiant Hadas, with glittering swords in their hands, pounced desperately upon the vanguard of the enemy's troops. They plied their swords with such skill and effect that Jaswant Singh was compelled to leave the field totally vanquished. The victory to Aurangzeb was, however, a dearly bought one, for in the scuffle the brave Mukund Singh and his three brothers with several of their followers, were slain. The Rao's fourth brother, Kishor Singh, had also received fatal wounds and was lying in a heap of mangled corpses, gasping for life. The Kotah troops saw and recognised their prince, and lifting him up, they applied all possible means to restore him to consciousness. Their efforts proved successful, and, after long and careful nursing his wounds were healed. After his recovery the Emperor Aurangzeb conferred on him the command of the Imperial troops, posted in the Deccan, where Kishor Singh achieved great renown.

The Kotah *gadi*, becoming vacant on account of the death of Rao Mukund Singh and his three brothers, was next occupied by prince Jagat Singh. He ruled for 12 years, the greater portion of which he spent in the Deccan, fighting against the Emperor's foes. Jagat Singh dying in 1670 without issue, the principal courtiers at Kotah installed one, Prem Singh, a cousin of the late Rao on the royal cushion. The new Rao, however, proved such a despicable ruler that within six months of his installation he was deposed by the same courtiers, who had raised him to that exalted position. Their choice next fell upon Kishor Singh, who had been so miraculously saved from the clutches of death after the battle of Ujjain.

In 1686, when Aurangzeb with a mighty host besieged the stronghold of Bijapur in the Deccan, Rao Kishor Singh was summoned to help the Imperial cause. The Rao shewed conspicuous bravery and it is said that he used his sword with such extraordinary skill that it evoked universal applause. He was slain in the siege of Arcot, and was

succeeded by his second son, Ram Sinh. His eldest son, Bishan Sinh, was deprived of his birth-right for once refusing to accompany the Rao in his expedition to the Deccan.

After the death of Emperor Aurangzeb in 1707, a contest for the Imperial *Musnud* arose among his sons, in which Ram Sinh espoused the cause of Prince Azim against his elder brother, Muazim. A terrible conflict took place near Jajao, in which the Rao was slain (June, 1707).

Ram Sinh was succeeded by Bhim Sinh on the Kotah throne. The Rao took a prominent part in the disputes between Farukshiyar and the Saiyed 'King-Makers,' and advocating the cause of the latter, he sent his army to Delhi to fight against the Emperor, who was assisted by the senior house of Bundi. The Saiyeds in the end succeeded in dethroning the Emperor, and installing one of their own creatures on the Imperial Throne. The Rao of Kotah was, for his service, rewarded with a high place of honour at the Mughal Darbar. When Jaya Sinh of Amber, taking advantage of Budh Sinh's absence, usurped his dominions and compelled the Rao of Bundi to take refuge at Beygoo, Bhim Sinh, though a cousin of the Rao, representing the junior branch of the Hada family, actively supported the chief of Amber and conquering some of Bundi's possessions, annexed them to his own principality. He also drove away the Bhils from their strongholds and encroached upon their lands. Chin Kilich Khan, subsequently known in the history of India by the name of Asaf Jah, Nizam-ul-Mulk, who was then the Subadar of the Deccan, rose in rebellion against the all-powerful Saiyeds. Bhim Sinh was sent to put him down, but in the attempt of apprehending him alive, the brave Rao lost his life (1719).

"The Hada Chroniclers state that Raja Bhim's person was scarred with scars, and so fastidious was he, through the fear of incurring the imputation of vanity, that he never undressed in presence of his attendants. The head of the princely tribes in the Rajasthan—the Maharana of Mewad—had conferred on him the title of 'Maha Rao,' to which was added from the Emperor the dignity of *Panch Hazari* (leader of five thousand.)"

After the death of Bhim Sinh, in 1719, his eldest son, Arjun Sinh, ascended the throne. Reigning for four years, Arjun Sinh died in 1723, without issue. A war of succession arose between his surviving brothers, Shyam Sinh and Durjan Sal. During the contest, Kotah lost

Rampura, Bhanpura and Kalapet. The death of Shyam Sinh brought this Civil war to a speedy termination.

Durjan Sal was duly enthroned Rao of Kotah in the year 1724. His accession was confirmed by Emperor Mahmud Shah, who inviting him to Delhi, presented him with a rich dress of honor. The Rao obtained from the Emperor a special prerogative, by which every Mahomedan, while passing through the territory of Kotah, was prohibited from slaughtering a cow. Durjan Sal was a valiant prince and combined in him all the qualifications of a great and good ruler. He had contracted intimate friendship with Bajji Rao, the celebrated Peshwa, who, in token of his love and esteem for the Rao, delivered over to him the fortification of Nahargarh. Durjan Sal deprecated the policy of his ancestor, Bhim Sinh, who had fallen foul upon his neighbour and kinsman, the Rao of Bundi, the head of the senior branch of their family. Not only did he disavow all enmity towards the house of Bundi, but he materially assisted Rao Umed in regaining his lost patrimony. This advocacy of Bundi's cause drew on him the wrath of the Raja of Amber, with whom he had to measure strength on many a field of battle. During the later portion of Durjan Sal's reign Kotah became a prey to Maratha incursions. To preserve his dominions from the hands of these marauders, the Rao was compelled to acknowledge their supremacy and to pay a fixed annual tribute to Holkar, the leader of the gang.

Durjan Sal died in 1757 without issue. He was succeeded by Ajit Sinh, a descendant of Bishan Sinh, who, in days gone by, had been disinherited by Kishor Sinh for his refusing to accompany him in the wars in the Deccan. His reign extended over two years and a half, and he was after his death succeeded by Chhatra Sal. It was during his reign that the celebrated Jalam Sinh, a scion of the Jhala family, appeared on the stage. His ancestors 'were petty chieftains' of Halwad in Kathiawad, whence his ancestor, Madhu Sinh, had come to Kotah, when Bhim was in the zenith of his power. Jalam Sinh was a valiant soldier and a consummate diplomatist. When the Raja of Amber marched upon Kotah at the head of his troops in 1761, it was Jalam Sinh who evinced uncommon valour and drove away the invader from the walls of Kotah. The Jaipur troops fell all of a sudden on the defensive outposts of Kotah, stationed on the banks of the river Chambal, and dispersing them, advanced as far as Butwarro. There they were opposed by a select band of 5,000 Hadas. The

proud array of Amber, despising the valour of a mere handful of opponents, confidently marched against them, anticipating a splendid victory for themselves and anxious to make total wreck of that fool-hardy band. Little did they dream that in strength and valour one Hada was more than a match for 100 of their rank. The Hadas gallantly repulsed three of their successive sallies and killed many of their number. The Jaipuris advanced for the fourth time in greater numbers and fought with redoubled vigour but without any decisive result. At last Kotah came out successful through the skill and valour of its leader, Jalam Sinh. While flying from the field of Panipat, where the Marathas had sustained a crushing defeat at the hands of the Afghan chief, Ahmad Shah Abdali, in 1761, Malhar Rao Holkar took up his quarters in the vicinity of Butwarro. The contending armies solicited his help but the crest fallen Goat-herd refused to side with either of the combatants. At last Jalam Sinh hit upon a plan, and instantly mounting his steed, he hastened to his camp and told him that the Jaipuris had grown indolent and careless, and that it was the proper time for him to enrich himself by plundering their camp. The mere report of the approach of Holkar was enough to throw the Jaipuris in a fit of panic and thus by a clever stratagem of Jalam Sinh, Kotah was spared the disgrace of owning allegiance to the throne of Amber.

Rao Chhatra Sal, dying in 1763, was succeeded by his brother, Guman Sinh. In his youth Guman was a brave and intelligent prince, 'well calculated to contend with the tempests, collecting from the south, ready to pour on the devoted lands of Rajputana. But one short lustrum of rule was all that fate had ordained for him.' Jalam Sinh once happened to offer some indignity to him only in jest, which threw the Rao in convulsions of rage. Forthwith did he dismiss the saviour of Kotah, who took refuge with Rana Arsi, then reigning at Mewad. The Rana was then a minor, under the tutelage of his guardian, the chief of Delwada. The youthful Rana once entreated Jalam to free him from the shackles of his avaricious guardian, and the brave Jhala succeeded in getting rid of the Delwada chief and restoring the Rana to freedom. Jalam had once more to deal with the Marathas and in a contest with one of their bands, under the leadership of Trambak Rao, the father of the celebrated Ambaji Inglia, he was taken prisoner. Jalam Sinh so full of resource, won the confidence of his captor, who set him at liberty. Jalam Sinh instead of returning to Mewad, repaired to Kotah and sought audience with Rao Guman Sinh.

The Rao was inexorable and refused to receive him, to whom Kotah owed her greatness. Jalam was not in the least disappointed, but availing himself of a favourable opportunity, he stealthily obtained admission in the palace and stood in the presence of the bewildered Rao. Guman condoned his guilt and restored him to his former place as the commander-in-chief of the forces. The Marathas next invaded Kotah, and all endeavours of Jalam Sinh to drive them away proved futile. At length when the marauders were appeased by a booty of six *lakhs* of rupees they retired in peace without molesting the poor ryots.

Rao Guman Sinh died in 1776. Before his death, he had appointed Jalam Sinh as the guardian of his son, Umed Sinh. The new Rao was only a ruler in name, the sole sovereign power being centred in the hands of the powerful Jhala, Jalam Sinh, who was fond of power to a fault. He was brave, fearless and active, full of intrepidity and resource. His enemies trembled at his name and the Musalmans, Marathas, and Rajputs, all alike, respected him. Kotah had attained the very zenith of her prosperity under him. When the neighbouring states were weakened by the constant inroads of the Maratha bands, Kotah under the fostering care of Jalam Sinh prospered and grew strong. The Rao of Kotah enhanced the extent of his domains by conquering from Bundi three of her best districts, Indragarh, Bulwan and Anterdeh. Jalam Sinh was generally praised for his constancy, devotion, justice and such other noble virtues. His mere word was considered to be as good as a solemn pledge.

It was in 1804 that Colonel Monson marched at the head of a detachment against the numerous bands of Holkar's troops, that lay encamped near Goody, a village in the vicinity of Ujjain. The Colonel, finding the odds so fearfully against him, ordered a general retreat; but a small party of horse under Lt. Lucan was left behind and it had to encounter the more powerful force arranged in order of battle. The remaining troops, under Col. Monson, continued to march forward until they gained the narrow pass of Mukundra between Kotah and Neemuch. The Marathas pursued them hotly and overtook them near the narrow defile. Col. Monson, instead of hazarding an action, marched in the direction of Kotah and demanded admission within its walls. Not only was he refused admission but nothing was done to ensure protection to the retreating band. Monson retired from Kotah with a heavy heart and continued his onward march. The rainy season had already set in: rivers and pools were swollen with

floods; the English battalion found it no easy task to continue their progress with the Marathas close upon their heels. They suffered considerably from privation, and spiking their guns on the way, a few survived to convey this disastrous news to the illustrious Lord Lake, who was then stationed at Agra. For twelve years (1805-1817) Jalam Sinh was the 'primum mobile of the region he inhabited.' The British Government declined to interfere with the internal administration of these Native States. Jalam Sinh proved a valuable acquisition to the English in their endeavours to save the country from the oppression of the Pindhari freebooters. It was through Jalam Sinh that the first engagement was signed between Kotah and the Paramount Power in December 1817. The Kotah Government agreed to acknowledge the Supremacy of the British throne. The tribute, which Kotah heretofore paid to the Marathas, was thenceforth transferred to the English. It was also arranged that the Rao of Kotah should render assistance to the English in time of war. The Supreme Government, in recognition of the yeoman service rendered by Jalam Sinh in extirpating the fearful gangs of the Pindharis, determined to confer upon the brave Jhala a certain district of Sindhia, hitherto held by him, and make him an independent ruler of that district with its dependencies. Jalam Sinh, however, chose to remain a minister, and the agreement was made in the name of the Kotah Chief, in which a fresh stipulation was added on 6th December 1817, by which the British Government guaranteed the Dewanship (premiership) of Kotah to Jalam Sinh and his descendants in perpetuity.

Maha Rao Umed Sinh died in 1820. It is said that he during his whole life never placed his foot beyond the threshold of his palace. He never exhibited either tact, skill, or valour, in any of the public transactions during his reign. He was succeeded by Kishor Sinh II. He was also, like his father, a mere puppet in the hands of his minister, who was the real Sovereign of Kotah. The Rao, apprehending the increasing influence of his Dewan, left Kotah in December of the same year and went to Jaipur. He then solicited the assistance of the neighbouring chiefs in obtaining his freedom from the shackles of his greedy minister. The Rao, attended by a retinue of his 6,000 men, marched towards Kotah, when Jalam Sinh offered him resistance. A scuffle ensued near Mogrul on 30th September 1821, in which the Rao was defeated, his brother Prithu Sinh slain, and the contingent dispersed. The Rao escaped to Nathadwara in Mewad, but event-

ually a reconciliation was effected between Kishor Sinh and his minister, Jalam Sinh. The Rao was brought back to Kotah by the devoted minister on 31st December 1821. According to the terms of the Settlement the Rao was to be allowed from the State treasury an annual sum of 164,000 rupees for defraying the expenditure of himself and his personal attendants, and he was to be assigned a palace within the Darbar walls for his residence. A body, consisting of 300 men—200 foot and 100 horse—was to remain constantly with him as his personal guard. The Rao in return guaranteed the retention of Jalam Sinh and his descendants as the prime ministers of Kotah. Rana Arsi of Mewad, immediately after his deliverance from the yoke of the chief of Delvada, conferred on Jalam Sinh the distinguished title of Raj Rana.

This celebrated Machiavelli of Rajasthan breathed his last at Kotah, in the month of June 1824. He was succeeded by his son, Madhu Sinh. He turned out a veritable Ishbosheth, but the terms of the agreement necessitated the bestowal of that place on the descendant of the great Jalam.

Kishor Sinh died in 1828, and was succeeded by Ram Sinh II. Madhu Sinh died shortly after, and the Dewanate was next occupied by his brother, Madan Sinh. Of course there was no sincere feeling of regard or affection between the Rao and his Diwan, but the former was bound hand and foot by the terms of the agreement of December 1817. The relations between the master and the servant were too much strained by the end of the year 1834. At last the Supreme Government saw the necessity of relaxing the terms of the Settlement, and in 1838 it was so arranged that the stipulations in the agreement of 1817, conferring permanent Dewanship on Jalam Sinh and his descendants, be cancelled. In lieu of this the Rao agreed to set apart from Kotah districts, yielding an yearly income of 12 *lakhs* of rupees, and confer them on Madan Sinh, on his relinquishing the position of the minister. Accordingly an independent principality, comprising of seventeen districts, was set apart and granted to Madan Sinh, which is this day known by the name of Jhalawad, and is held by the descendants of Madan Sinh. This change in the original engagement also brought about a change in the payment of the annual tribute. It was arranged that the sum of Rs. 80,000 was to be deducted from the tribute, hitherto paid by the Kotah Chief, and that deficiency was to be recouped from the coffers of Jhalawad. It was also agreed

that no sum in excess of three lacs was to be recovered from Kotah every year for defraying the expenses of the subsidiary contingent, stationed there for the defence of the province. Afterwards in 1844 the sum of three lacs, was reduced to two *laks* with a proviso that if the amount fell short of the expenditure, the deficiency was to be made good from the amount of tribute. An ultimatum was given to the Rao that in case he failed to pay regularly the tribute and the expenditure of the subsidiary troops, the British government would confiscate and hold the State as a guaranteed security.

The unpleasant altercation between the Raja and his minister was thus brought to a close by setting apart to Raj Rana Madan Sinh the territory of Jhalawad. The Subsidiary contingent maintained at Kotah flew into rebellion in 1857, and massacred in cold blood the British Political Agent and his two sons. Maha Rao Ram Sinh, instead of hastening to the rescue of the Political Agent, remained a passive spectator of that melancholy event. This stolid indifference, nay secret encouragement to the mutineers, drew upon him the indignant wrath of the Supreme Government, which as a mark of disapprobation of the Rao's conduct, reduced his salute by four guns. In 1864, however, the Government conferred upon the Rao the right of adoption.

Maha Rao Ram Sinh died at an advanced age of 64 years in 1866. It was generally bruited out shortly before the Rao's death that one of his wives desired to ascend the funeral pyre and become suttee. The Political Agent, on being informed of this, at once ordered the Rani's quarters to be locked and strictly guarded by a body of sentries. He also made such arrangements that the news of her lord's death could not possibly reach her ears. For four hours after the Rao's demise the matter was kept strictly private, but then the whole thing leaked out. When the dead body of the Rao was next morning laid on the pyre to be consigned to the flames, the Rani, not-with-standing such strict watch kept over her, broke open the gates and issuing out of the palace with all the fury of an enraged tigress, rushed on the pyre and was consumed with the remains of her departed husband.

After the death of Ram Sinh, his only son, Bhim Sinh, who took the family name of Chhatra Sal, ascended the *gadi* of Kotah. The full salute of seventeen guns was restored to him by the British Government, and thus his succession was recognised.

In 1869 an extradition Treaty was concluded between the British Government and the Kotah State. By this Treaty the mutual surrender of criminals was agreed upon. In 1887 an agreement was entered into by the Kotah State with the India Government, which modified the Treaty of 1869. This agreement provided that in cases of extradition from British India to Kotah, the procedure prescribed by the law as to the extradition of offenders for the time being in force in British India should be followed.

In 1881 all transit duties were abolished throughout the State excepting those on opium and other intoxicating drugs.

A salt agreement was concluded in 1882. By this the State agreed to prohibit absolutely and prevent the manufacture of edible salt within any part of the Kotah State. The State also agreed to prohibit the importation into, or exportation from, the Kotah State of any salt whatever other than that upon which duty had been levied by the British Government, and to abolish all taxes thereon.

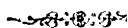
Before the death of Maha Rao Ram Sinh in 1866, the state of affairs at Kotah had been for some years unsatisfactory. The ministers who conducted the administration were irresponsible, and unprincipled, and at the death of the Maha Rao the State was found to have debts, amounting to 27 *lakhs* of rupees.

When Maha Rao Chhattru Sal ascended the *gadi* some slight improvements were carried out, but they did not last long. Now and then the tribute and the military contribution due to the British Government fell into arrears. The debts of the State increased to an enormous sum of eighty lakhs of rupees. The unworthy favourites, to whom the administration of the State was entrusted, embezzled the revenues of the State. Cruelty and oppression reigned everywhere. The British Government advised the Maharao to adopt reforms, and as long as there was a hope of improvement through the Maha Rao himself, they were unwilling to intervene directly. At last the Maharao saw that he himself was quite unable to effect any improvements. Consequently he requested the British Government for their intercession, desired to receive a Native Minister nominated by them, and expressed his willingness to adopt any administrative measures that might be considered necessary. Accordingly Nawab Faiz Ali Khan Bahadur, C. S. I., was appointed to administer the Kotah State in 1874, subject to the general advice and control of the Agent to

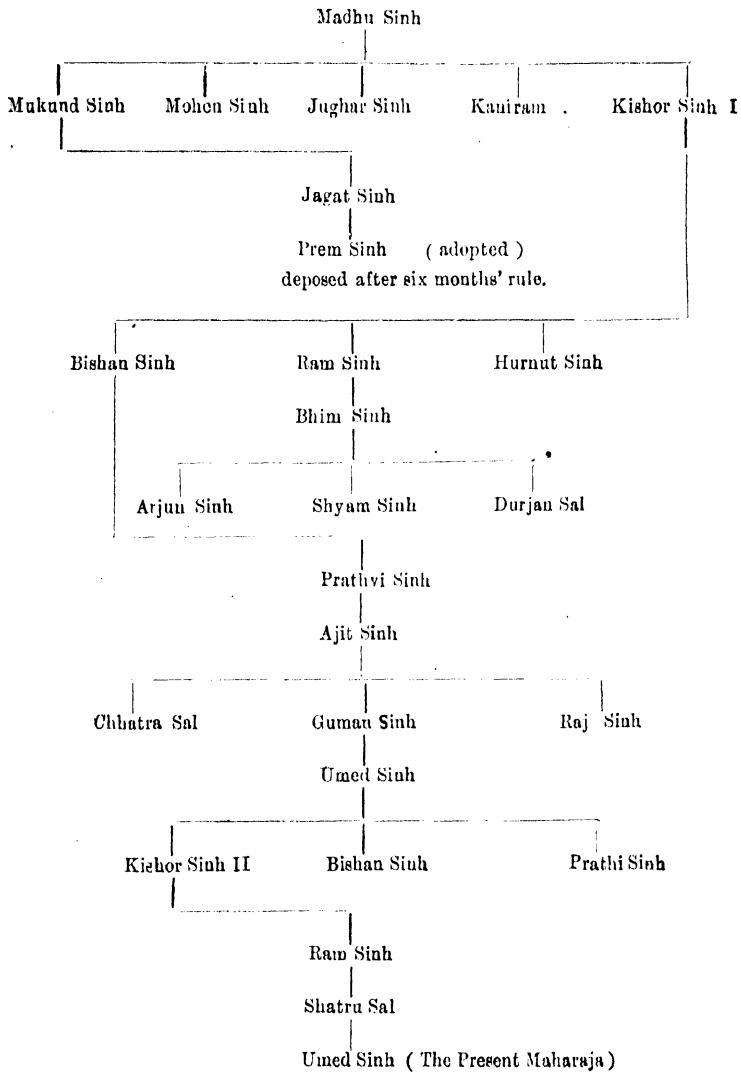
the Governor General. The Maha Rao was prohibited from all interference and a suitable allowance was assigned to him.

In 1876 Nawab Sir Faiz Ali Khan Bahadur K. C. S. I. retired. The administration was then placed in the hands of a British Political Agent, assisted by a council. When the Maha Rao had to some extent reformed his ways, certain departments were placed under his special directions, and it was decided that he should be consulted on matters of importance. The State debts were paid off by instalments, and were soon liquidated.

Maha Rao Chhatra Sal died on 11th June 1889. His adopted son, Udaya Sinh, who was born on 5th September 1873, succeeded him under the family name of Umed Sinh. He received his education at the Mayo College, Ajmere. Some objections were raised to his leaving Kotah for this purpose by interested adherents and considerable pressure was required to overcome them. His Highness the Maharaja of Kotah enjoys full civil and criminal powers and is entitled to a salute of 17 guns.



Genealogical Tree.



Residence.—Kotah, Rajputana, Western India.

KUTCH.

Area—6,500 sq. miles. Population.—558,415.

Revenue.—18,04,000 rupees.

The territory, of H. H. the Rao of Kutch is bounded on the north and north-west by the province of Sindh, on the east by the dominions of H. H. the Gaekwad, on the south by the Gulf of Kutch and the peninsula of Kathiawad, while the vast Indian Ocean rolls in the south-westerly direction.

The present Rao of Kutch is a Rajput of the Jadeja clan. Before his ancestors had settled in the province, it was ruled by a prince of the Chavda dynasty. The seat of government was then in Patgarh. The Jadejas are said to have descended from the original stock of the Yadavas, of the lunar race. Shri Krishna, the sovereign lord of Dwarka, had a son, named Sâmba, by one of his wives, Jambuvanti. He married Ramâ, the daughter of Kaubhanda, who was prime minister to the well known Banasura, then reigning in Shonitpur, believed to be in Egypt. A son was born of this marriage, and he was named Ushnika. When the Yadavas destroyed themselves on the banks of the Gomati, Ushnika was in Shonitpur, where he remained all his life. Banasura was after his death succeeded by Kaubhanda, and after his death, Ushnika became the lord of Shonitpur. A certain prince, Devendra, flourished in his line, 79th degree removed from him. He had four sons; of these four, one, Aspat, embraced Mahomedanism; Chudchand, the son of Gajapat, founded a kingdom in Sorath, and his descendants are known by the name of Chudasama. Narapata, his third son, killed Pheroza the Emperor of Ghazni, and usurped his throne. He assumed the title of Jam. Sultansha, the son of Pheroza, succeeded in taking back Ghazni from Samanta, the son of Narapat, who thereupon fled to Sindh, and there set up a separate and independent throne. His descendants assumed the name of Sama, derived from his name Samanta, in place of their former name Yadava. In his line of descent, nine degrees removed from him, there flourished Lakhia Bhada, who founded the city of Nagar Samai and made it his seat of government. It has now lost its old name and is generally known by the name of Nagar Thatha.

Lakhia Bhada had a son, named Lakho Ghuraro. He was married to Princess Bothi, the daughter of Viramadeva, the Chavda ruler of Patgarh in

Kutch. This union was blessed with four sons. Two of them, **Moda** and **Manai**, stayed in Kutch with their uncle. They treacherously murdered their patron, and usurped the throne of Kutch. **Lakho Phulani** was fourth in descent from **Moda**, who, dying without issue, was succeeded by his nephew, **Puwaro**, the son of **Jam Ghao**. He also died childless, and **Lakhaji** and **Lakhadhir**, the sons of **Jam Jado**, the then reigning prince of Sindh, sixth in descent from **Unada**, the step brother of **Jams Moda** and **Manai**, were summoned to assume the sovereignty of Kutch. They were the sons of **Vereji**, though they were both adopted by **Jam Jado**. It was from him that his descendants took the distinctive appellation of **Jadeja**. It is also said that **Lakhaji** and **Lakhadhir** were twin-brothers. In the Sindhi language the children born simultaneously are called 'Jada,' and it might be this circumstance that caused their descendants to be known by the name of **Jadeja**. Whatever may be the origin of the name, the **Jadejas** came into existence for the first time from this date. These two brothers founded another city, and named it, **Lakhiyar Viyaro**, after them both, and transferred their seat of government to the new city. **Jam Lakhaji's** son, **Rayadhanji**, had four sons, **Dedoji**, **Othaji**, **Gajanji** and **Hothiji**. They distributed among themselves their paternal estate, by giving **Kanthakot** to **Dadarji**, **Lakhiyar Viyaro**, the metropolis, to **Othaji**, the district of **Bara** to **Gajanji**, and **Gajod**, with twelve other villages to **Hothiji**. All the four brothers were styled **Jams**.

Othaji, who inherited the seat of government, ascended the throne in 1385. He expelled the **Jains** from his dominions. **Othaji** died in the year 1405. He was succeeded by **Prince Ghaoji**. The enraged **Jains** took shelter under **Rayadhanji** of **Bara**, the cousin of **Ghaoji**. They plundered the territory of **Ghaoji** and harassed him much. They were, however, put down by the valiant **Abado**, the son of **Rayadhanji's** uncle, **Jiyoji**. **Ghaoji** died in 1437, and was succeeded by **Jam Vahenaji**. **Rayadhanji** with the assistance of other malcontents began to raise serious disturbances regarding the boundaries of **Poeni**. **Jam Vahenaji** thereupon left his metropolis, **Lakhiyar Viyaro**, and went to the hills of **Haba**. From the latter place he made several inroads upon the territory of **Rayadhanji** and oppressed his subjects. **Rayadhanji** was eventually compelled to kneel at the feet of **Vahenaji**, and the two cousins were reconciled.

After the death of **Jam Vahenaji** in 1450, his son, **Mulwoji**, succeeded to the throne. **Mulwoji** was suffering from rheumatism, which

incapacitated him from wielding his sword. The enemies of his father, taking advantage of this circumstance, invaded his dominions. But it was not long before he was cured of his disease and he lost no time in taking up arms against his enemies. He succeeded in subduing everyone of his opponents, but was killed in a battle with the Kathis in the year 1470. Jam Mulwoji was succeeded by Kanyoji. He bore a grudge to the Kathis, who had killed his father, and he expelled them from his dominions in Kutch. He also wreaked his vengeance upon the Vaghela chief of Gedi, who had formerly sheltered the Kathis, by taking his life.

Amarji ascended the throne of Kutch after the death of Kanyoji in 1490. In his reign the emperor of Kabul made an inroad upon Kutch and demanded of Jam Amarji a tribute, called the *Swari Vero*. The Jam was brave enough to repudiate such a presumptuous demand and took up arms against the Moslem. A fierce battle ensued, in which the Mussalmans were defeated and driven back. The valiant Jam, however, received a mortal wound, of which he died in 1510. Amarji, while dying, summoned his son, Bhinji, to his bed side and thus spoke to him, 'You are no doubt the heir-apparent to the throne, but it is my dying wish that if your mother, who is now *enveinte*, gives birth to a son the throne be given to that son. My salvation will be ensured only if you promise to carry out this last behest of mine.' Bhinji magnanimously agreed to it, and on the birth of the posthumous son, he caused a general proclamation to be circulated throughout the land, investing Prince Amar Amarani with all the regal power, reserving to himself the management of the administration. When Amar attained the age of 15 years, all the brothers assembled together and unanimously resolved that as Amar seemed to be of weak intellect he would not be able properly and efficiently to administer the state affairs. They requested Bhinji to resume the reins of government, but he was too loath to break the solemn pledge that he had given to his deceased father. They remonstrated with Bhinji that if Amar were allowed to retain possession of the throne their enemies, taking advantage of his weakness, would some day march upon the capital and deprive him of his *gadi*. Such an event would bring dishonour upon the yet untarnished name of their ancestors and that it was he alone who could save the whole family from such a calamity. Bhinji was thus compelled to ascend the throne of Kutch. During his reign Jam Lakho, the descendant of Jam Gajanaji of Bala, was treacherously murdered by some persons. The

suspicion fell upon his sons, Jam Raol, Jam Bhimaji, and Prince Hamirji, Bhimji vowed vengeance against them. He, however, died in the year 1525, and Prince Hamirji assumed the title of Jam. Hamirji took up his residence in Lakhiyar Viyaro. Jam Raol, who grew jealous of him, repaired thither within a week after his accession and entreated him to go with him to Bada and grace his poor cottage by his royal presence. Hamirji could at once see through his wicked intentions and refused to comply with his request. The wily Jam Raol swore in the name of his tutelary goddess, Ashapuri, that there was no plot laid against his life, and it was only when such a strong assurance was given that Hamirji was prevailed upon to accompany him to Bada. The confiding Hamir was entertained to a princely banquet, in which he was pressed to drink so much of liquor that he fell senseless on the ground. The fatal signal was given by Raol to his attendants, who at once murdered the unfortunate youth. The contemptible Raol made a searching inquiry after his sons, with a view to get rid of them also, but he was therein frustrated by the fidelity of one of Hamir's attendants, named Chhachhar Butto, who had obtained a clue to this vile treachery. Kamabai, the daughter of Jam Hamirji, was given in marriage to Mahmud Shah Begada, Emperor of Gujarat, and Chhachhar Butto effected his escape to Ahmedabad with all the princes. After the death of Jam Hamirji in 1537 Jam Raol conquered all his dominions and incorporating them with his own, began to reign supreme in Kutch. The names of the sons of Hamirji, who were safely escorted to their sister's house at Ahmedabad, were Alioji, Khengarji, Rayabji, and Sahelji. Mahmud Begada readily granted them his support by despatching a large army to Kutch. The whole province was overrun and wrested from the hands of Jam Raol. Khengarji, the bravest of the four princes, was re-instated on the throne, elevated with the new title of 'Rao.' Jam Raol, seeing that the day was against him, crossed the Run of Kutch and escaped into Saurashtra. He there became the founder of a new dynasty of rulers in Nawanagar.

The present capital of Kutch, Bhuj, was founded on *Magsar Sud* 6th Samvat 1650, corresponding to 1549, by Rao Khengarji only a few years after his accession. Lakhiyar Viyaro, the ancient capital, was given to the bards and *Charans* as a present and Bhuj was made the seat of government. In 1580 was founded the important seaport town of Mandvi, which even to this day commands the extensive trade of the whole

province. Chhaehhar Butto was given seven villages for the yeoman service he had done to the prince in times of difficulty, while other people also received some such rewards, in recognition of the support given by them in those troublous times. Jam Raol was always devising plans to wreak his vengeance upon Khengarji. One day in a grand Durbar held at Nawanagar Lakhapsada circulated a *Beera* challenging the courtiers to bring the head of Khengarji. Twelve of the nobles seated there picked up the *Beera*, accepting the challenge, and they all went to Kutch and began lurking about the palace to carry out their wicked plan. Once Khengarji happened to go out a-hunting, unaccompanied by any of his retinue, and the twelve assassins, taking advantage of the opportunity, followed him and surrounded him in a jungle. The Raol, wielded his sword so dexterously and valiantly that he effected his deliverance by slaying all the twelve that had barred his way.

Khengarji had two sons, Bhojrajji and Bharmalji. The heir—apparent, Bhojrajji, had gone to the rescue of Raydhar Hala, where he was shot by an arrow. He had a son, named Aliyoji but after the death of Khengarji, in 1585, Bharmalji assumed the reins of government, setting aside the claims of Aliyoji. In his time Muzafar III. the King of Gujarat, while roaming about as a fugitive, was at last caught at the court of Bharmalji. On his way back he committed suicide with a razor and the government of Gujarat thus passed into the hands of the Mughal Emperors. After the death of the Great Akabar, Jehangir (Selim) ascended the Imperial *Masnad*. When Jehangir visited Gujarat Bharmalji went to Ahmedabad to pay his respects to the Emperor. The Rao presented him with 2,000 rupees, 100 *ashrafis*, and 100 Kutch horses. In return Jehangir gave him his own horse, an elephant, a dagger, a sword and diamond rings and also accorded him the privilege of issuing in his territory his own stamps and coins, called the *Kories*.

Rao Bharmalji, dying in 1631, was succeeded by Bhojrajji. Nothing important happened in his reign. He is said to have been a great patron of letters. He died in 1645. As he had no male issue he was succeeded by his adopted son, Khengarji, the son of his brother, Meghaji. Rao Khengarji II. died in 1654. His death is attributed to a curse pronounced against him by a Charan woman.

After the death of Rao Khengarji, one of his courtiers, Sigranji, installed Hamirji, the Rao's son by his Sumari wife, on the throne. But on the

nineteenth day after the death of the Rao one of his *Bhayads*, Hothiji, took with him the Rao's brother, Tamachiji, to the capital and deposing Hamirji, instated him on the *gadi*. Rao Tamachiji died in 1662, and was succeeded by Rayadhanji. The Suba of Gujarat sent a large army under Muazim Beg to levy a tribute from the Rao of Kutch, but when he found that he had not a sufficiently strong army to cope with the well-manned troops of the Kutch potentate he returned to Ahmedabad.

Rayadhanji died in 1697. He had ten sons, each of whom was entrusted during his life time with the management of different districts. All the sons of Rayadhanji except the third, followed, as chief mourners, the corpse of the deceased Rao in the funeral *cortege*. Pragmalji, however, stayed back in the palace under the pretext that he had a severe pain in his eyes. He caused the gates of the city to be closed and usurped the throne, issuing the Royal Proclamation in his own name, and setting aside the claims of the eldest son, Rawoji, and of the son of Nodhanji, who had died in the life time of the late Rao. The other princes, who were on the funeral ground, when they were apprised of this act of treachery on the part of Pragmalji, at once ran to the different districts that were already in their charge, and held them independently against the ruling chief.

Pragmalji died in 1715, and was succeeded by Godaji. His reign, extended over a period of three years only, and he, dying in 1718, was succeeded by Deshaji. Kanyoji, the chief of Morvi, and the son of Rawoji, the elder brother of Pragmalji, invaded Kutch with the assistance of a small contingent from Sher Buland Khan, the Mughal Suba of Gujarat. The Rao seemed for a time disconcerted at the approach of such a vast army, but he afterwards showed remarkable courage. He fought against the invading army and defeating it, drove it out of the country. Many of the Mussalmans were killed in the battle that ensued between the two contending armies. Sheth Devkaran was honoured with the Diwanship by Rao Deshaji. This Diwan effected great reforms and retrenchments in the expenditure of the State. The heir-apparent, Lakhapatji, was, however, an extravagant youth. He always stood in need of money. Once at the instance of Devkaran his royal father refused to grant him any further subsidy. This enraged the Prince who hired a *Pardesi* to assassinate the miserly Lohana. This was soon effected and Lakhapatji got rid of one, who had played the chief obstructionist to his pleasures and extravagance. In 1741 Lakhapatji invited his father to an enter-

tainment at his place. He there imprisoned him and usurped the throne, deposing the innocent father. Rao Deshalji spent the remaining period of his life as a State-prisoner, from which predicament he was relieved by death ten years later, in 1751.

Lakhapatji assumed the reins of government immediately after the dethronement of his father in 1741. He made Punja Sheth, the son of the very Diwan, whom he had caused to be murdered, his prime minister. The new Diwan was not able to find funds for his master sufficient to meet his extravagance. He was soon after removed and his place was given to Rupji Shah. On the dismissal of Punja Sheth he was fined 20 *laks* of *Korries*. The Bania minister resolutely refused to pay the fine and a small skirmish ensued, in which 65 men were killed. Rupaji Shah was dismissed after four years and Punja Sheth was re-instated in his Diwanship. He was however, soon, replaced by one Gordhan Mehta. The implacable Punja Sheth devised a plan so as to create in the mind of the Rao a strong suspicion against the new premier and he succeeded in his plot, for the Rao at once ordered the execution of Gordhan Mehta. After his death the Diwanship was once more given to Rupji Shah. He was, in his turn, succeeded by Tulsi Das. This Diwan was mainly instrumental in effecting a reconciliation between Rao Lakhapatji and the ruler of Kabul.

Rao Lakhapatji was not on good terms with his son, Godaji. Once the prince went to Morvi and with a large army, supplied to him by the chief, marched against his father. Diwan Tulsi Das was dismissed for his inactivity in making preparations to oppose the invading enemy and the place was given to one, Devji. He succeeded in bringing about a settlement between the father and the son. Rao Lakhapatji was ennobled with the title of 'Mirza', in recognition of the military service rendered by him to Ahamud the Emperor of Delhi, in troublous times. He was also presented with Shah, the *Mahi Muratib*. The Emperor of Kabul conferred upon him the distinction of 'Maharaj Adhiraja'. Rao Lakhapatji employed in his service one Vaghela, Ram Sinh, of Dwarka, who had undertaken several voyages to Europe. He made him introduce into Kutch those arts and manufactures, with which he had become so well acquainted during his stay in Europe. Taken into the service of the Rao, he established a cannon-foundry and silk and glass manufactories made clocks and minutely copied patterns of European models and figures. So well did he infuse this artistic taste that the mechanical skill, for which Kutch craftsmen

are now famous, is generally, traced to his training.* The Rao also extended his patronage to letters. Himself a good student of the *Brij* (*Vraj*) language, he founded a school to render it accessible to all his subjects. He made arrangements for providing lodging and boarding to those students, who came from the mofussil. He died of dropsy, at the age of 44, in the year 1760. Fifteen of his concubines immolated themselves on the funeral pyre and followed their departed lord.

After his death he was succeeded by Prince Godaji. He conferred the place of his Diwan upon one, Jiwan, a menial servant of the old Diwan, Punja Sheth, Punja Sheth taking umbrage at the indignity thus offered to him, went to Sindh and induced Gulam Shah, the reigning sovereign to invade Kutch with a force of 70,000 men, promising in return to bestow upon him the hand of the fair princess of Kutch. Diwan Jiwan opposed this army with the combined forces of Kutch and Radhanpur. During the fight one of the cannons in the front file burst with a loud explosion, which created a confusion in the armies of both the hostile factions. The enemies met pell-mell and had a hand to hand fight, in which the swords drank the blood of many a valiant hero. Jiwan was killed in this bloody contest. The Sindh monarch returned to his country, burning several of the villages on his way. Gulam Shah had made Punja Shah his Diwan, and he also plundered many of the villages in Kutch. Finally he was apprehended by the Rao, was put in chains, and after a close confinement for ten days, was poisoned, Gulam Shah, hearing this, marched upon Kutch with a force of 50,000 men. He proceeded as far as Lodar Mata, but returned to his dominions, appeased with the hand of a daughter of an ordinary Jadeja. Meanwhile Meru Khavas, the Diwan of Nawanagar, taking advantage of this turmoil, seized the fortress of Balamba. The army of the monarch of Sindh again invaded Kutch, but was ultimately driven back.

Rao Godaji died in the year 1778. He had two sons, Rayadhanji and Prithirajji, of whom the elder, Rayadhanji ascended the throne. He bestowed the Diwanship upon one, Devchand Sheth. He and his three brothers, however, fell victims to the foul play of a Sindhi Jamadar, Jamal Miyan. The Rao, acting upon the advice of one Sindhi, Marichā, made Vagha Parekh his Diwan. The new Diwan made an inroad upon the territory of the chiefs of Patri, who were the Rao's *Bhayads*, but who were at daggers drawn with him. The Jadeja Rajputs resented this unwise

* Campbell's Bombay Gazetteer, vol. V p. 143.

step on the part of the Diwan, but he, with true political instincts, effected a speedy reconciliation with the Jadejas, and within a few days expelled all the Sindhies from the province of Kutch. One Mahomedan preceptor, of the name of Mahmud Pana, was so successful in preaching the creed of Islam to Rao Rayadhanji that his faith in Hinduism was shaken to its very foundation and he eventually embraced the Moslem religion. He also began to convert other Hindus to the new faith. The whole population of Bhuj was thrown into an abnormal state of excitement and Vagha Diwan, with the other courtiers, thought it prudent to put the Rao under restraint. Vagha asked his brother, Koro, then staying at Anjar, to proceed at once to Bhuj, with a retinue of 400 men. Vagha and Koro, with their men, entered the Darbar, but the trusty Pathans, by whom the Rao was always defended, opposed them and killed them all in the scuffle. Vagha, Koro and other men who were slain in the contest were interred in large pits, dug after the Mahomedan creed. This created a great consternation among all his Hindu chiefs and subjects. Some of them, taking advantage of the situation, assumed independent powers in the districts entrusted to their care. Meghaji Sheth and others resolved upon taking hold of the person of the Rao and putting him under restraint at any hazard. On the day that the fanatic Rao had ordered all the Hindu temples to be destroyed, Meghaji Sheth and others made a bold attack on the Darbar-Gadha (palace walls); the Rao and his Pathan mercenaries, unable to cope with them, took refuge in the interior of the palace. Meghaji Sheth with the spirit of a true soldier surrounded the palace with his followers and remained there for several days. The brave Pathans, seeing the helpless predicament into which they were thrown, at last surrendered and the Rao was taken prisoner in 1786. Meghaji Sheth appointed Prithirajji, the brother of the Rao, generalissimo of the forces and put down all who had usurped absolute powers during the late disturbances. The first chief they marched against was Ramji Khawas, who held independent possession of Mandvi and defeating him, they levied upon him a daily tribute of 700 *Korries*. After that Meghaji went against Roha, but the Jadejas took offence and he had to fly for his life when he heard that they had determined upon poisoning him. The next place that fell into Meghaji's hands was Anjar. After the departure of Meghaji, Ramji Khawas of Mandvi stopped the payment of the stipulated tribute. No sooner had Meghaji departed from the field than several of the chieftains turned round and defied the authority of

the central government. Bhati Hamir and Turkwa Dina, two of the officers of the State, freed Rayadhanji from restraint. But he was again imprisoned by Fattch Mahmud*, the Jamadar of a small detachment.

After the capture of the Rao, Dosal Ven, one of the most powerful and influential members of the government, entrusted Fattch Mahmud with a command of 200 horses. This afforded the Jamadar the first stepping stone to his future greatness. He, by his affability of manners, became a general favourite with the Kutch nobility. He was universally praised for his amiable disposition and he became in short the sole moving spirit in the whole government. He first devised means to enhance the power and prosperity of the State. He marched against the Thakore of Sunwa in Vagul, who had stopped the payment of tribute, and sacked his capital. This prompt action struck terror into the hearts of the other Girasia chiefs, who were also guilty of the same offence, and they, each and all, began to make regular payments of their annual tribute. He expelled from the country gangs of marauders that infested Vagul. He also captured Munhra, held by Dosal Ven independently of the Rao. He built the fortalice of Lakhapat and increased its sea-port revenue. He turned Ranji Khawas out of Mandvi, and entrusted the management of its affairs to Hansraj. The Jamadar became such a powerful personage in Kutch that every one grew jealous of him. Modaji succeeded in creating a sort of ill-feeling between Fattch Mahmud and Prithirajji, the brother of Rao Rayadhanji. Once at an entertainment Prithirajji drew his sword and rushed upon the Moslem Vazier. The party assembled dispersed in confusion and the Jamadar escaped unhurt. The next day when Prithirajji learnt that Modaji had merely got up a fabricated story to get rid of the Jamadar, he went to Fattch Mahmud and begged to be forgiven. From that day, though they kept up friendly appearances, each conceived a strong dislike for the other. When Fattch Mahmud was wending his way towards Lakhapat, the wily Modaji won over, Hansraj to his side and induced him to give over Mandvi to Prithirajji.

* A man, of the name of Notiyar, once flourished in the line of Unad, who ruled in Sindh and who was the half brother of Moda and Manai, the founders of the Jadeja dynasty in Kutch. He had embraced the faith of Islam. This Fattch Mahmud was his descendant, several degrees removed from him. In the beginning he only tended flocks of sheep, but as he was a precocious lad, a petty appointment was given to him in Kutch. From that place by sheer force of his intelligence he rose by degrees to the highest post, of the Vazier of the realm. The readers will be made more acquainted with him as they proceed further with this narrative.

The Jamadar, when he learnt this, marched back to Bhuj in a single day. He made preparations to attack Mandvi, with a force of 10,000 men, when he learnt that an army from Radhanpur was making its way towards Kutch. He made up his mind to first obstruct its course and drive it back, and then proceed towards Mundvi. When Fattch Mahmud was thus engaged with the Radhanpur army, Prithirajji, Hansraj and Mahmud Miyan made a common cause and invaded Bhuj. The Jamadar was forced to come to terms with Prithirajji. The prince got possession of Bhuj, while Fattch Mahmud released the Rao from restraint. Prithirajji made Hansraj his Prime Minister, but the young Rao *defuncto* did not live long to enjoy his newly acquired power. Prithirajji died in the year 1801.

On the death of Prithirajji, Rayadhanji once more became the sole monarch of Bhuj and the neighbouring districts. He began to devise means to get rid of Hansraj. The minister, however, brought a large army from Mandvi and again placed the Rao under restraint. Intrigue reigned supreme for a time, and Ashkaran, taking advantage of the consternation pervading the whole country, pillaged the capital. The Rao could ill-brook the indignity thus offered to him. He was on the point of taking the life of Ashkaran, when the latter escaped into Sindh. Fattch Mahmud, who remained all the while in the back ground, went to Bhuj on receiving intelligence of its pillage. He was obstructed in his progress by soldiers employed by the Rao, and a scuffle ensued between them and the Jamadar's followers. A bullet from the gun of one of the Jamadar's party struck the Rao in one of his legs, which incapacitated him, and he was once more made a prisoner. Fattch Mahmud then imposed several cesses and taxes upon the Girasia, Dhamnada and Miyana Villages. This act of oppression enraged the Girasias, and a land-holder of Dhamadaka entered the private *Kacheri* of Fattch Mahmud and there dealt him a wound with his sword. The Girasia, while turning back, was cut to pieces by one of the Jamadar's guards. Fattch Mahmud, who was of a very vindictive disposition, bore this in mind, and on his recovery four months after, he confiscated the villages of Dhamadaka and Chobari. He also subjugated the recalcitrant Thakore of Sanwa, and inflicted severe penalties upon the other Girasias, who had raised their heads against him. He sacked Warahi and marched upon Nawanagar, under the pretext of asserting the right of Kutch over the fortress of Balambha. He laid waste the whole territory of Nawanagar, but when Meheru Khawas, the Diwan of that place, came to meet him with the combined forces of Nagar

and Junagarh, he effected a retreat. He made another attempt to conquer Nawanagar and seize its fortress by implanting on its walls the victorious standard of Kutch, but with no better success. He founded several *Thanas* (out-posts) in Halar and then returned to Kutch. He then made many inroads upon Halar, where he occasionally succeeded in raising large sums of money by inflicting heavy fines upon the unfortunate land-holders. It was on the 26th of October 1809 that the intervention of the English was for the first time called for. Several negotiations were entered into between the English and the Kutch authorities. The Paramount Power was represented by Mr. Greenwood, on behalf of Colonel Walker, the Resident of Baroda, while Rao Rayadhanji delegated his power to Jamadar Fattch Mahmud.

The Jamadar was too ambitious to acknowledge for a long time the supremacy of a foreign power, and he began in 1813 to devise means for the expulsion of the English from the country, and to make Kutch an independent sovereignty. He allowed the several free-booters and outlaws to carry on their raids unchecked in the teeth of an express stipulation with the British Government to the contrary. This led to the mission of Captain MacMurdo, who was ordered to proceed to Kutch, with a Royal *Kharita* from the Imperial Government. Fattch Mahmud boldly refused to make good the losses occasioned by these robberies, whereupon he received another *Kharita* from the India Government. In the midst of these and the like disputes with the British Power his life was cut short by an attack of cholera, to which this astute statesman and soldier succumbed in 1813. Rao Rayadhanji did not long survive the Jamadar. He also died in 1813, twenty-five days after the death of the Musalman premier. He had, while on death bed, expressed his desire to the Musalman chiefs about him that his corpse should be buried after the Mahomedan creed, but the Rajputs mustered strong, and about 500 of them succeeded in driving away the Mahomedans from the palace. The dead body of the Rao was incrimated according to the rites of the Hindu religion. Rayadhanji was succeeded by Bharmalji. He was then only 15 years old. The entire management of the State was therefore entrusted to Hussein Miyan, the son of Fattch Mahmud. Captain MacMurdo visited Bhuj, to enforce the stipulations entered into between the English and the Kutch Darbar, which had long been allowed to fall into desuetude. Hussein Miyan was well inclined.

towards the English, but his brother, Ibrahim Miyan, strongly opposed his conciliatory policy. Jagjiwan Meheta, a trusted protege of the late Fattch Mahmud, tried his utmost to persuade Ibrahim, but to no purpose. On the 30th August (1814) Jagjiwan Meheta and his family were most cruelly murdered. Ibrahim's triumph did not last long. On the 23rd September, he was murdered by a Marwadi officer in the Rao's employ in the presence of his brother, Hussein, and the minister Lakhani Das.* Hussein did not prove a successful administrator and the sole management of the State was entrusted to Diwan Lakhani Das. Hussein Miyan thereupon went to Anjar, which he appropriated to himself independently of the Rao. On the 11th of August 1815, the outlaw of Vagad sacked the encampment of Captain MacMurdo near Ghatila. This led to an invasion of Vagad by the Rao, whose army was re-inforced by the combined forces of the English and the Gaekwad horse, amounting to 4,000, under Colonel East, who came down to the scene of action on 14th December 1815. Some of these marauders, daunted at the very sight of these men, yielded, while some, including Hussein Miyan, sallied forth to fight against them. In the contest that commenced on the 25th of December Hussein Miyan was forced to lay down his arms, and the whole district of Anjar was conquered by the English troops. In 1823 this district was restored to the Rao, on his paying the English the sum of 88,000, rupees. Kutch continued to be a hot bed of intrigues, and disorder, and anarchy still pervaded the whole country. It was from the month of January 1819 that a British Resident was permanently appointed at the Court of the Rao, and the choice of the Government, for their first representative in Kutch, fell upon Captain James MacMurdo.

Rao Bharmalji was found incompetent to administer the affairs of the government. He was, therefore, dethroned in the summer of that year, and kept under restraint, while his infant son, Deshalji, aged 3 years was proclaimed Rao of Kutch. The British Government appointed a Council, consisting of the Resident, the Diwan and four other local chiefs to carry on the administration during the Rao's minority. The English Government, as the guardian of the young Rao, gave him princely education, and on his attaining the age of 19, handed over to him, on 8th July 1834, the sole management of the State. From the 1st of April 1840 the Government changed the designation of the British officer, residing at the

* Campbell's Bombay Gazetteer.—Vol. V. pp. 156-57.

Court of Kutch, from a Resident to a Political Agent. With a view to prevent female infanticide, an inhuman custom prevalent among the Jadejas, a fund was raised in Rao Deshal's time, and it was resolved to pay out of the fund a sum of 4,000 *Kories* to a Jadeja, found in needy circumstances, on the occasion of the marriage of his daughter. In 1851 the Rao founded a school and a dispensary. He put a stop to slave-trade and the evil practices of *Sati* (burning of widows), *Samaadhi* (burning oneself alive, a custom indulged in, by the *Yogis* and such barbarities, then prevailing in Kutch). In his reign Kushalchand, Mehta Ambaram and Thakar Nanji were successively made Diwans. After Nanji the Rao summoned Munshi Behari Lal from Agra and bestowed upon him the Diwanship. He was such a clever administrator that he soon secured the favour of both the Rao and his subjects. Rao Deshalji died in 1860, amid universal regret. He left behind him two sons and one daughter. He was succeeded by the elder prince, Pragmalji II, while to the younger, Hamirji, was given in *Giras* the district of Tera. The Princess, Bai Sahēb, was married to the late Sir Jawan Singh, the Maharaja of Idar. Pragmalji had attained the age of 22 years at the time of his accession. Behari Lal still continued to administer the affairs as the Diwan. He went to Bharatpur in the beginning of 1861. Motilal Jiwandas was made acting Diwan, in his place, but finally Meheta Vallabhaji Ladha was given the permanent Diwanship. Nani Ba, the Jhala wife of Maha Rao Shri Pragmalji, gave birth to the heir-apparent, the present Maha Rao, Sir Khengarji, on the *Shrawan Pūṇ* 13th of the year Samvat 1923. (1867. A. D.)

In 1868 the Rao dispensed with the services of Meheta Vallabhaji Ladha and conferred the Diwanship upon Khan Bahadur Kazi Shahab-ud-Din C. I. E. When Kazi Shahab-ud-Din went to England on some state business his work was entrusted to Rao Sahēb Bhogilal Prannavallabhdas, Meheta Ishwarlal Oehhavram and Mr. Motilal Dalpatram. After his return from England Kazi Sahēb continued to be the Diwan of Kutch until he accepted service under the Baroda Government in February 1874. The late Rao Bahadur Krishnaji Lakshaman Nalkar C. I. E. succeeded Kazi Shahab-ud-Din in Kutch. Rao Shri Pragmalji was a highly educated prince, with refined tastes and high principles, and his selection of Ministers and advisers was also a very happy one. He framed new codes for the administration of Civil and Crimi-

nal Justice. He divided the whole province into several *Praganas*, and appointed one Vahivatdar for each of them. He also placed the Educational and Medical Departments on a proper footing. He for the first time established a Police force on the British model and appointed *Nyayadhishes* (Magistrates) in several places. He got a large Tank excavated in the Chadwa hills, which is named 'Pragsar' after him. He also laid out a fine extensive garden, outside his capital, known by the name of '*Sharad Bag*,' and built a large central Jail at Bhuj. As a further embellishment of his capital he spent *laks* of rupees in building a large palace, a rare specimen of architectural beauty, called the 'Prag Mahel'. In the year 1871 he was blessed with another son, Karan Sinh, who was born on *Shrawan Vud* 10th St 1927. In the same year the Rao was decorated with the *insignia* of the Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India. A stately Darbar was held in the spacious hall of the new palace to invest him with that highly distinguished title. He went to Bombay, in the same year, on the occasion of the arrival of H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh, second son of H. I. M. the Queen Empress of India, and to perpetuate the memory of that visit, he spent a large sum of 150,000 rupees towards the establishment of a High School, named the 'Alfred High School.' He, on an other similar occasion, went to Bombay to pay his respects to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales in 1875. In honour of this second visit he laid the foundation--stone of the Edward Albert Break-water at Mandvi. This Break-water has been completed at the expense of 2 *laks* of rupees.

Rao Pragmalji was a good sportsman, having killed no less than 45 tigers, leopards and wild boars. He had a pretty good command over the English language. He introduced so many useful reforms in the State that a narration of them would fill one whole volume; suffice it to say that he was a very wise, beneficent and progressive ruler. He was fond of reading books and news-papers.

Rao Shri Pragmalji expired at the early age of 37 in the very prime of his life, on the 1st day of January 1876. He left behind him the present Maha Rao, Khengarji, Prince Karan Sinh and a daughter, Bairaj Ba, who was married to Dungar Sinh, the late Maharaja of Bikaner.

Prince Khengarji, the heir-apparent, was duly installed on the 3rd January 1876. The young prince was at the time of the death of his father

only nine years old ; so the late Rao had, prior to his death, thought it politic to make a will, indicating the lines on which the new administration was to be carried on during his son's minority. In accordance with this will, the British Government appointed a Regency, composed of the Political Agent of Kutch, the Diwan, Rana Shri Jalam Sinh, Madhavlal Bapuji and Ravji Hirachand, to carry on the government. Rao Shri Khengarji was placed under the supervision of a competent European officer, and a tutor was appointed to look after his education. The place of the Diwan was given to Rao Bahadur Manibhai Jashbhai. The competent Diwan worked assiduously for the amelioration of the condition of the province and for equipping the young Rao with sound training. In 1880 R. B. Manibhai had to leave Kutch at the instance of the Bombay Government and his place was given to Rao Bahadur Nandshankar Tuljashankar. Rana Shri Jalam Sinh also was ordered to leave the limits of Kutch. The young Rao was favourably inclined towards R. B. Manibhai and after expostulating with the Bombay Government for three years, he succeeded in reinstating R. B. Manibhai in his old place, and also in getting the order regarding Jalam Sinh cancelled.

In 1886, on the Maha Rao's attaining the age of majority the sole administration was entrusted to his care. The Imperial Government ennobled Maharajadhiraja Mirza, Maha Rao, Shri Khengarji with the title of 'Sawai Bahadur', while his favourite Diwan, Rao Bahadur Manibhai Jashbhai, who was subsequently raised to the high position of the Diwan of Baroda, was honoured with the distinction of 'Diwan Bahadur'.

In 1885 His Highness the Rao entered into an agreement with the British Government as regards salt. By this agreement His Highness undertook to prevent the exportation from Kutch of all salt, produced or manufactured within the province, to any part of British India, or of any native state, or of any foreign European settlement in India.

The Kutch State has made no agreement regarding opium. In the Kutch territory opium is not cultivated or manufactured. The quantity required for the local consumption is imported from the British territory, where it has paid duty to the British Government. The responsibility of preventing the import of illicit opium into, and the export of all opium from, its territory lies on the State.

The name of His Highness's brother is Karan Singh born in 1870. He is educated at the 'Rajkumar College,' Rajkot. On the occasion of Her Majesty's Jubilee, he visited England, and was then created a Companion of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire. He married a daughter of the House of Armada in Okha, Kathiawad, in March 1889. His Highness's sister was married to the late Maharaja of Bikaner in Rajputana.

In 1887, on the occasion of the celebration of the Jubilee of the Queen Empress, His Highness proceeded to England to represent the Princes of the Bombay Presidency, and was there created a G. C. I. E. During his absence the State was in the charge of his Diwan, Rao Bahadur Motilal Lalbhai.

The Rao takes a deep interest in furthering the cause of education. He has founded a Sanskrit Pathshala, (which is named after his mother) at a cost of Rs. 25,000, and the Fergusson Museum and Library at Bhuj, in memory of Sir James Fergusson, the Governor of Bombay, at a cost of Rs. 32,000. To encourage learning, he has founded numerous scholarships, such as for Kutchies receiving scientific and technical education in England, for Kutchies attending the Veterinary College at Bombay and the Veterinary School at Poona, for Kutchies attending the Poona College of Science, and for students receiving agricultural or other scientific education in India; scholarships are also offered to any citizen of Bombay, attending the Ripon Technical School. The scholarships for Kutchies, resident in Bombay alone, were established at a total cost of Rs. 25,000. His Highness has also inaugurated a fund from which students learning in England and America can obtain their expenses. Annual prizes are also awarded to those, who qualify themselves for any professional function in connection with a spinning-mill, and for the naval work of ship-mate. Competent persons are also commissioned to write essays and to translate standard English works into the Gujarati language. To female education the Rao pays special attention. A scholarship is awarded to Kutch females, attending the Grant Medical College at Bombay, and the "Kutch Barton scholarship" is awarded to Kutch females, attending the Training College at Ahmedabad or Rajkot. Among other scholarships should be mentioned those for female assistant teachers at Bhuj, the Rao Shi Khengarji scholarships and one for girls attending the High School at Poona.

Within recent years considerable improvements have been made in the matter of public works. Since the accession of His Highness the to

gadi Rs. 66, 24, 672 have been expended on works of public utility. New buildings are erected, roads are extended, and waste land is reclaimed.

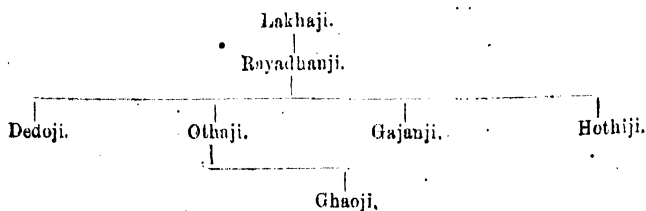
As in Kutch the rainfall is scanty and irregular; it is found by experience that well-irrigation is very much suited to the requirements of the province. His Highness has consequently paid great attention to it. Other means of irrigation have also been adopted. In the course of the last fifteen years 83, 890 acres of waste land have been reclaimed and fifteen new villages have been established.

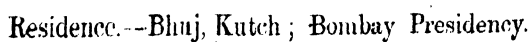
His Highness is a thorough sportsman. He takes much delight in all manly exercises, such as pig-sticking, shooting &c. As a ruler he is firm and thoroughly wise. His subjects regard him with a deep and ardent attachment. On 19th February 1884 he married the daughters of the Thakore Sahab of Sayla, and of Rana Jalam Singh. The said Thakore Sahab and the Rana are cousins to His Highness the Raj Sahab of Dhrangadra in Kathiawad. On the occasion of this marriage, a small Darbar was substituted for the old custom of giving *Fulekas* (grand dinners and a nightly procession). At this Darbar *nazars* were offered, which His Highness touched and remitted to be utilised in furthering the cause of female education, and thus the occasion was made a very remarkable one. His Highness has two sons, one, Madhubha, otherwise called Vijayarajji, born on 2nd September 1885, and the other, Manubha, born on 12th September 1888.

In 1890 the British Government made an agreement with the State of Kutch for the construction of a telegraph line from the eastern boundary of the State to Mandvi, through Bhuj. The line was constructed and is worked by the British Telegraph Department.

The Maha Rao of Kutch enjoys full civil and criminal powers in his territory, and is entitled to a salute of 17 guns.

Genealogical tree.





PATIALA.

Area.—3,951 sq. miles. Population.—15,83,521.

Revenue.—56,40,252 rupees.

Patiala is the largest of all the Sikh States in the Panjab, and was founded by a peasant, named Chaudhari Phul. He founded a small village in the territory of Nabha, in the middle of the 17th century. Chaudhari Phul had two sons, Tiloka and Rama, of whom the descendants of the former are this day reigning at Nabha and Jhind, while the latter established the principality of Patiala, which is still held by his successors. The rulers are Sikhs of the Sindhu Jat tribe, who are likewise styled Phulkian, a name derived from Chaudhari Phul. Sindhu Jats, like the cognate Jat tribes, are Rajputs tracing their origin from Jaisal. The latter was a Rajput of the Bhati tribe, who established the principality of Jaisalmer and founded a city of the same name. A rebellion breaking out in his own dominions, Jaisal repaired to his capital in 1180, abandoning the newly acquired territories to their fate. Sindhu was a descendant of this Jaisal, while Saugar flourished in the line of Sindhu. Babar, the founder of the Mughal Empire in India, received material support from Saugar on the memorable field of Panipat, and the Moslem with a view to reward the services rendered by the Hindu chief, appointed his son, Bariam, as the Chaudhari or the head-man of the district. Phul was a direct descendant of Bariam and a saint. Har Govind, the Sikh Guru, blessed him with good luck in the near future. He was honoured with the title of Chaudhari by Emperor Shah Jehan. He died in the year 1652.

Ala. Sinh, son of Rama and grandson of Phul, defeated Nawab Saiyed Asad Ali in the battle of Barnala. He also obtained several victories over the Bhatias and other foes, and built the fortress of Patiala. He was defeated on the same plains of Barnala by Ahmud Shah Durani in 1762. He surrendered himself to the conqueror, who conferred upon him the title of 'Raja'. After the departure of Durani Ala Sinh marched against the Afghan governor of Sirhind, who was defeated and slain in the battle. He destroyed Sirhind, and forced the inhabitants of that place to settle with their families in Patiala. When Ahmud Shah overran India for the second time, he exacted a heavy tribute from the Chief of Patiala and reduced him to the position of a mere feudatory vassal. On Ahmud Shah's return to his native land Ala Sinh escorted his liege-lord as far as Lahore.

Ala Singh died at Patiala in 1765, and was succeeded by his son, Amar Singh. Ahmad Shah Durani conferred upon him in 1767 the title of Raja-i-Rajgan Bahadur, and presented him with a drum and a flag as emblems of Royalty. In 1772 Amar Singh, fearing the attack of the Maratha General, Jankoji Rao, sent away his treasure and jewelry to a better place of security at Bhatinda, but in the meantime his brother, Himat Singh, rose against him and captured the citadel of Patiala. He made a bold defence against all his enemies, and succeeded in destroying them all. He was, however, not able to cope with his formidable antagonist, Ranjit Singh.

In 1781 Saheb Singh ascended the *gadi* at Patiala. The State suffered considerably during his reign. In 1786 the whole province of the Punjab was visited by a dire famine, and the neighbouring chiefs, owing allegiance to Saheb Singh, taking advantage of the weakness of the central government, encroached upon several villages under Patiala, while some of them even set up independent principalities. At last Saheb Singh, with the assistance of his Diwan and other high officials, obtained the help of the Marathas and succeeded in defeating and vanquishing all the chiefs, who had raised their heads against him. In 1803, General Lake captured Delhi, and a treaty was concluded between the English and the Marathas at Sirji Angangaon. It was from that date that the English gradually gained supremacy in those parts of the country. Maharaja Ranjit Singh, the ruler of Lahore, with a view to conquer the State of Patiala, boldly determined in 1806, to seize all the trans-Sutlej principalities. To this the English offered no resistance. In a civil feud between the Chiefs of Patiala and Nabha, the latter summoned to his assistance the brave Lion of the Punjab. Ranjit Singh readily responded to the call, and crossing the river Sutlej at the head of his troops in October 1806, he effected a reconciliation between the contending princes. Ranjit Singh again invaded the territories of Patiala in the following year (1807). The Raja was not on good terms with his wife, and it was this woman, who invited Ranjit Singh against her own husband. The petty chiefs, ruling over the trans-Sutlej states, growing apprehensive of the repeated attacks of Ranjit Singh, expressed their willingness to acknowledge the sovereignty of the English and applied to the Governor General to protect them against the aggression of their powerful foe. Before any action was taken by the British Government upon this appeal, the Raja and his wife were reconciled, and Ranjit Singh set out for his capital. The reconciled pair, however, cordially welcomed

the Maharaja as a friend and their guest, and presented him with a rich diamond necklace and a brass gun. On his way back he could not resist the temptation of capturing some forts belonging to petty chiefs. When Ranjit Singh was secretly informed of the plans that were being matured against him at Dehli, he wrote a letter to the Governor-General, setting forth his claims to all the territories lying to the west of the Jamuna, over and above all the regions then held by the English. The English sent an envoy to his court to settle these differences, but the Maharaja, instead of being appeased, was highly exasperated, and crossing the Sutlej captured Umballa. The British Government had no alternative but to make adequate preparations to oppose the onward progress of Ranjit Singh, who, however, soon after returned to Lahore.

In accordance with the terms of the treaty concluded in April 1809, Ranjit Singh agreed to renounce all his claims to the dominions of the petty Rajas across the Sutlej; and the Raja of Patiala agreed to lend his support to the English in the event of any war breaking out in the country. Saheb Singh, dying in 1813, was succeeded by Karam Singh. He assisted the English in their war with the Gurkhas of Nepal, in consideration whereof the English bestowed upon the Raja of Patiala Anthal and a small estate of Baghat, yielding an annual income of 5,000 rupees. In return, Karam Singh paid to the English, a large sum of 800,000 rupees. The Maharaja of Patiala ceded to the English in 1830 the hilly tracts of Simla, and obtained in exchange three villages in the Kharoli *Paragana*. Karam Singh, after reigning for 32 years, died in 1845, and was succeeded by his son, Narendra Singh. It was in his reign that the first war between the English and the Sikhs was declared. The Maharaja of Patiala sided with the English, while that of Nabha espoused the cause of his co-religionists. At the conclusion of the war the English deprived the Maharaja of Nabha of a vast tract of land, yielding an yearly income of 38,000 rupees, and bestowed it upon their ally of Patiala. Narendra Singh abolished octroi, toll and other obnoxious cesses and the British Government, pleased with his liberal policy, conferred upon him, in 1847, all those regions that were conquered from the chief of Lahore. During the ill-fated Mutiny of 1857, Maharaja Narendra Singh, a staunch ally of the English, materially supported them with men and money, and in token of gratitude, the Paramount Power, among other things, bestowed upon him the estate of Narnaul, forming part of the territories of Jhajjar, which yielded an annual income of 2 *lakhs* of rupees.

In 1860 a deed of adoption was granted to the Maharaja, and the British Government renounced all their claims to the tribute, which was hitherto levied from the State of Patiala. After some time another deed was granted to the Chief, by which the English ceded to him certain territories in lieu of the out-standing debts due from them. On the 1st of November 1861 Maharaja Narendra Sinh was decorated with the *insignia* of the Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India. He breathed his last on November 14th of the following year (1862).

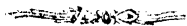
Narendra Sinh was succeeded by his son, Mahendra Sinh, who was only 12 years old at the time of his father's demise. He attained his majority in 1870, and assumed the reins of the government into his own hands. The British Government conferred upon the new Maharaja the distinguished title of G. C. S. I. in 1871. He exerted his utmost in ameliorating the condition of his subjects by introducing several reforms in the land revenue system, and improving the general status of the province. Besides founding a College at Patiala, he established no less than 86 schools, and thus encouraged the spread of liberal education through his State. He also opened nine dispensaries, one telegraph office, and spent large sums of money towards the comfort and convenience of his subjects. For the accommodation of travellers, he built a stately *Dharmashala* at an expense of one *lakh* of rupees and gave it the name of 'Mahendra Sarai.' He also constructed a large canal from the river Sutlej and thus provided a free supply of water to the agriculturists. Besides these he undertook several works of public utility and charity. He advanced a loan of one *lakh* of rupees to the British Government for the relief of distressed humanity at the time of the great famine that ravaged the whole of the Punjab during his reign. In commemoration of the visit to India of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, he endowed the Punjab University with a princely sum of 106,351 rupees for the foundation of scholarships. He also contributed the sum of 10,000 rupees to the Bengal Relief Fund.

H. H. Maharaja Mahendra Sinh Mahendra Bahadur G. C. S. I. was one of those who assembled to welcome His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales at Calcutta on the 23rd of December 1875. He attended also the magnificent reception of Native Princes and the Grand Chapter of the Star of India. He was cordially received by the Prince, who returned his visit at his residence in Calcutta and another at Patiala, while on his way to Agra.

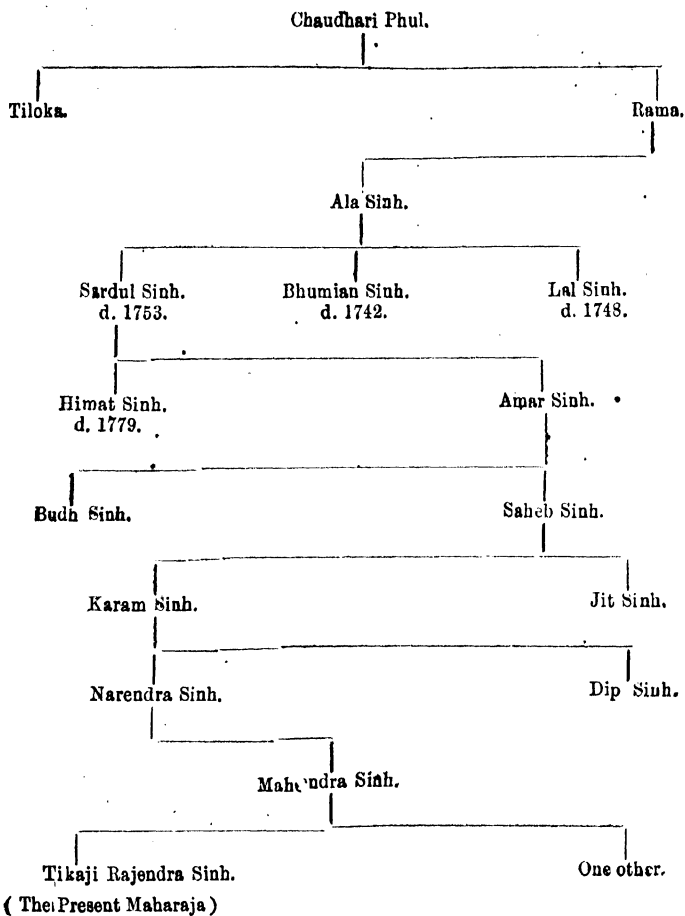
The 14th of April of 1876 witnessed the death of Maharaja Mahendra Sinh. He left behind him two infant sons. The British Government recognised in the elder, Tikaji Rajendra Sinh, who was then four year old, the late Maharaja's successor. During the minority of Maharaja Tikaji Rajendra Sinh the administration of the State was conducted by a Council of Regency, selected in accordance with the arrangements sanctioned in 1858. The state affairs continued to be thus managed until 1889. In 1889 the Maharaja was granted some powers by way of probation. On his attaining majority, he was formally confirmed in these powers on 23rd October 1890.

When war broke out in Afghanistan in 1878, the Patiala State materially helped the British Government with its troops. They were employed in the Kuam Valley, along with the forces of some other Native States in the Punjab, under the command of a British General. Considering these services the British Government has since freed the present Maharaja from his obligation of making a *nazar* in the Darbar.

The Maharaja of Patiala enjoys full civil and criminal powers and receives a salute of 17 guns.



Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Patiala, Punjab, Northern India.

CHAPTER IV.

STATES ENTITLED TO A SALUTE OF 15 GUNS.



KISHANGHAR.

Area—724 sq. miles. Population.—125,422.

Revenue.—300,000 rupees.

Kishangarh is bounded on the north-east and east by the State of Jaipur, on the south-east by Shahapura; on the south-west and west by Ajmere and on the north-west by the territories of Marwad.

The rulers of Kishangarh are Rathod Rajputs, descended from the same stock as the Maharaja of Marwad. Kishan Sinh, the founder of this State, was the ninth son of Udaya Sinh, the Chief of Jodhpur. It was in 1613 that he founded this principality. A quarrel for succession arose between Purwez and Khurram, (afterwards Shah Jehan) the two sons of Emperor Jehangir. The mother of Prince Purwez was the daughter of the lord of Marwad, while Khurram was born of a Jaipur Princess. In all attainments, mental and bodily, Khurram was far superior to Purwez and enlisting the sympathy and support of one Mohobat Khan, originally a kinsman of the Rana of Mewad but subsequently a convert to the Faith of Islam, he began to concert schemes for obtaining the Imperial *Masnad*. In the first place he opened friendly negotiations with Gaj Sinh, the reigning prince of Marwad, but being related to Purwez and naturally inclined to support his cause, he rejected all overtures from Khurram. He then worked upon one, Gowind-

Das Bhati, a *Patawat* chief at the court of Jodhpur, and through his influence tried to secure the co-operation of Gaj Singh, but Govind Das refused to broach the subject before his liege-lord. Khurram felt much enraged and requested Kishan Singh to cut off the head of Govind Das. Faithful to his mission, he severed the head of the courtier and Kishan Singh thereby obtained the support of Khurram in conquering the province of Kishangarh and making it independent of Marwad.

It was, as said above, in 1613 that Kishan Singh set apart this newly conquered principality and erecting a new city for his capital, named it after him, Kishangarh. Almost nothing is known of its history with the exception of the mere names of the rulers, Sahis Mal, Jag Mal, Hari Singh, Rup Singh, Man Singh, Raj Singh, Sawant Singh and Sardar Singh from the date of its establishment to 1790, a period of about 175 years. A glimpse, however, may be obtained here and there in the pages of Col. Tod's ever memorable work, 'The Annals of Rajasthan'. It appears that Vakhat Singh dethroned his nephew, Ram Singh, the son of Abhaya Singh, and himself sat on the *gadi* of Jodhpur in 1750. After his death in 1753, he was succeeded by his son, Vijaya Singh. Immediately after his accession to the throne the deposed Ram Singh put forth his claims to the *gadi* and a terrible battle was fought on the plains of Merta (Meratia), which decided the rights of the two rival claimants. Vijaya Singh had mustered his Marwadi troops and had obtained re-inforcements from the chiefs of Bikaner and Kishangarh. Ram Singh, on the other hand, had secured the support of Jayapa Sindhia and the Maharaja of Amber. The contending armies fought with great vehemence and Vijaya Singh was on the point of gaining the day, when the opponents raised a false alarm that Vijaya Singh was slain in the conflict. The followers of Vijaya Singh were thrown into confusion and without assuring themselves of the veracity of the flying rumours, they began to fly in all directions. It was this trick that secured for Ram Singh the throne of Marwad. Jayapa Sindhia, it is said, compelled the chiefs of Bikaner and Kishangarh to fly before him, leaving behind them their rich treasures and paraphernalia.

Bahadur Singh, successor of Sardar Singh, after his accession to the ancestral throne, boldly determined to wipe off the disgrace brought upon the ruling house of Kishangarh, by the defeat sustained at Meratia. Though himself not a great warrior, Bahadur Singh, called to his aid the Marathas and invaded Marwad, to wreak vengeance on the descendant of

Ram Sinh (1791). There has, also, been ascribed another reason for this invasion of Marwad by Bahadur Sinh. The Chief of Kishangharh had a brother, to whom he had granted a rich *Jagir*; Bahadur Sinh's intention was to dispossess his brother of this rich estate, but the latter flew to the Maharaja of Marwad and obtained his assistance. Bahadur, frustrated in his design, was much vexed and summoning the Marathas to his aid, attacked the territories of Marwad. It is a curious circumstance, that these Marathas, though they had worked the ruin of Rajputana by rapine and pillage after the battles of Tanga, Puttan and Meratia, remained studiously aloof from inflicting any harm on Kishangharh, and this strange immunity may be accounted for by the fact that Bahadur Sinh, scrupulously avoided all friction with these depredators by frequently filling their mouths with gold and silver.

Bahadur Sinh was, after his death, succeeded by his great grandson Kalyan Sinh. It was during his reign that Kishangharh formally acknowledged the supremacy of the British Power (1818). Before that date the Chief of Kishangharh owed fealty to the Maharaja of Jaipur. The treaty between the ruler of Kishangharh and the British Government was based on the same terms as the negotiations formed between the English and the other Native States in Rajputana. Soon after affixing his signature to the abovesaid agreement, Kalyan Sinh adopted a policy in direct contravention of the terms agreed upon, which alienated from him the sympathies of his courtiers and subjects. He told his chiefs that he was ready to relinquish all his royal rights and privileges over them and absolve them from the obligation of personal service, imposed upon them under the old feudal laws, in case they agreed to pay him money in exchange. The *Puttawats* suspected that the Raja, though he would affix his sign-manual to the agreement proposed, would not be slow in abrogating the terms and they would in the long run be saddled with a double infliction. The Raja grew mad with rage at the disobedience of his courtiers and besought the assistance of the reigning sovereign of Delhi. He himself repaired to the imperial capital to assume command over the detachment, ordered to march to his succour. The Mughal throne was then occupied by Akbar II, a mere nominal Emperor.

Kalyan Sinh, after reaching Delhi, was for a time engaged rather in maintaining his own dignity than obtaining the promised support. With much ado, he was allowed to face the Imperial presence in the Audience chamber with stockings on. While Kalyan Sinh was thus engaged in settling petty formalities at Delhi, his *Puttawats*, who were on his side, summoned to their

assistance troops from Bundi and other Native States and made preparations for a war against the recalcitrant chiefs. They had also mustered strong and were ready, with their following, to measure their strength with the opponents. Petty skirmishes and encounters ensued, in which blood was spilt on both sides and the flame of discord spread itself far and wide, reaching the precincts of Ajmere, then in possession of the British Authorities. The Supreme Government held Kalyan Sinh responsible for the mischief and sent him an ultimatum at Delhi. Kalyan Sinh was frightened out of his wits and at once set out for his kingdom at the head of such of the troops as he was able to assemble at Delhi. He expressed his determination to make an onslaught on his wayward courtiers, but his own partisans turned round and refused to lend him their support. His own troops, too, began gradually to disperse and he had to give up in despair his long-cherished plan of vanquishing those of his *Puttuwats*, who had presumptuously reared their heads against the ruling authority. On the other hand, those *Puttuwats*, emboldened at the abortion of their Raja's plan, assembled together and unanimously decided to depose Kalyan Sinh and place his son, Prathvi Sinh, on the throne. They marched towards Kishangarh at the head of a large army and lay encamped in the vicinity of the city walls. Kalyan Sinh fled to Ajmere and requested the British officials to take Kishangarh under their protection and preserve it from the ravages of the enraged nobility. The Sardars, too, thought it prudent to appeal to the same power and seek at their hands a proper redress of all their grievances. At last the British Government decided that Kalyan Sinh should be allowed to carry out his wish of taking up his residence at Delhi; and that the administration of Kishangarh be carried on by means of a Council of Regency. This was not what the Sardars wished to secure and they sought the interference of the Maharaja of Marwar to amicably settle the disputes, still existing between them and the ruling chief of Kishangarh. The Maharaja advised these courtiers that even if the desired settlement was brought about, it would go for nothing unless they obtained a guarantee from the British Government. Such a guarantee the British Government refused to give and the whole matter ended there. The Sardars, once more, collected their troops and with the determination of deposing the Raja, proceeded to Kishangarh and laid siege to the citadel. The Raja, seeing that victory was on their side, fled in confusion to Ajmere and entreated the British Political Agent to intervene on his behalf.

The British officer promised his intercession and calling the rival faction, together, brought all their differences to a satisfactory termination. Though this concordate was brought about at the express desire of Raja Kalyan Sinh, he still held fast to his old views and would have carried them out, had not his courtiers shown remarkable courage and perseverance. They again rallied together and Kalyan Sinh, instead of offering them any resistance, quietly abandoned the capital. He, however, did not long survive this discomfiture, for he died in the year 1839.

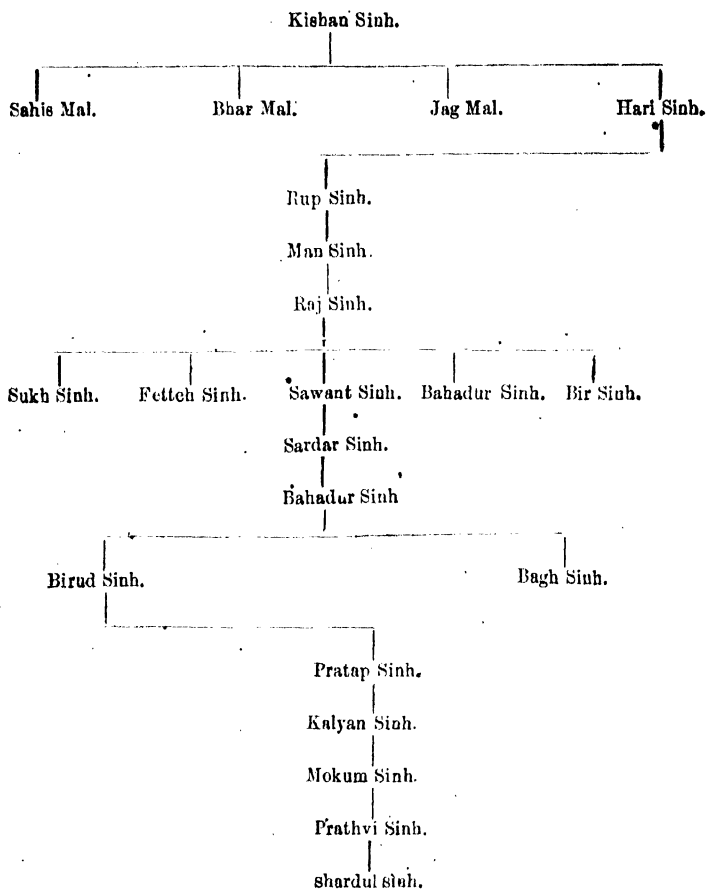
Kalyan Sinh was succeeded by his son, Mokum Sinh, who dying in the same year (1839), was succeeded by his adopted son, Prathvi Sinh. He obtained from the British Government, in recognition of his liberal policy, a *Sanad* of adoption. Maharaja Prathvi Sinh was present at the Grand Darbar held at Agra in honor of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales. He gave several rich presents to the Royal Guest, who in return gave the Maharaja a splendid revolver, with sixteen chambers, a sword, a gold medal, a rich golden watch, with a valuable chain of the same material, and such other sundry articles. He also attended the Imperial Assemblage held at Delhi on the 1st day of January 1877, under the presidency of Lord Lytton, the then Viceroy of India, on the occasion of the assumption by H. M. Queen Victoria of the title of Empress of India. It was at that Darbar that the salute of the Kishangarh Chief was raised, as a mark of personal distinction, from 15 to 17 guns.

Maharaja Prathvi Sinh was, after his demise, succeeded by the heir-apparent, Shardul Sinh, the present Maharaja. Maharaja Shardul Sinh was created a Knight Grand Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, on the 1st of January 1892.

The Maharaja of Kishangarh enjoys judicial powers of life and death, and receives a salute of 15 guns.



Genealogical tree.



(The present Maharaja).

Residence.—Kishangarh, Jaipur Agency; Rajputana.

TONK.

Area.—2,933 $\frac{1}{2}$ sq. miles. Population—379,944.

Revenue.—1,40,000 rupees.

The rulers of Tonk are Mahomedans, of the clan of Rohilla Pathans, belonging to the Afghan tribe. It was only in the present century that the State was founded by that celebrated Amir Khan, who won for himself wide spread notoriety, throughout the length and breadth of Hindustan, as the leader of that band of vile banditti, known by the name of Pindharas. Born in Rohilkhand, Amir Khan passed his early years in the village of Sambal, in the district of Muradabad. During the middle of the 18th century, when the age of Amir Khan was about twenty years, that soldier of fortune set out from Rohilkhand to try his luck in foreign lands, accompanied by his brother, Karim-ud-Din. At the head of only ten Pathans, the two brothers first came down to Malwa and accepted service under the Maratha rulers of the province. At this period an opening was presented to the ambitious Amir to display to advantage the stuff he was made of. Mahmud Yassin, *alias* Chatta Khan, the Nawab of Bhopal, breathed his last and the whole territory was distracted by the quarrels and dissensions, that broke out for succession to the throne. The court of Bhopal was torn asunder by hostile factions, which supported the rival claimants to the *gadi*. At this period Amir Khan, at the head of six horse and sixty foot-guards, espoused the cause of Hayat Khan, the rightful heir of the deceased Nawab, and proceeding to Bhopal, joined the faction, which helped the claimant. He rendered valuable assistance to his party and stayed at Bhopal for one full year, at the end of which, he hastened to the aid of the Rajput Chief, Durjan Sal of Raghugarh, who had been deposed by Sindhia and expelled from his territory. He made friends with that injured chief, whose service he now entered. They both made united efforts to lay waste the country and maintain themselves by pillage and plunder. Against Sindhia Amir Khan raised his arms and by his victories, won a fair name for his valour and chivalrous courage. He gave ample proofs of his bravery and finally came out of that contest, unequal as it was, with his reputation, as a dauntless warrior, confirmed more than ever. He again accepted service in the ranks of Balaram Inglia, that Maratha adventurer, who had been given a high military command in the state of Bhopal by Diwan Mureed Mahmud for the purpose of preserving order and tranquillity in his dominions. Subsequently Amir Khan was appointed one of the bodyguards, attached to the person of the sovereign, Nawab Ghous Mahmud of Bhopal. Thence

he was deputed to join the garrison, engaged in the defence of the fortress of Fatehgarh. A few days after, Diwan Murced Mahmud died and his post was taken up by the celebrated Vazier Mahmud. Amir Khan made an attempt to get some service at Bhopal under the rule of that astute Diwan, wherein he succeeded. He was retained at the capital for six months, during which time the cunning and deceit of that crafty adventurer could not escape the keen and penetrating eye of the clever Diwan, who getting apprehensive of Amir Khan's boundless ambition, dismissed him at once in 1799.

At this period of Indian History, Jaswant Rao Holkar had risen to the foremost place amongst the prominent Maratha rulers by dint of his energy, chivalrous valour and acute intellect of the very first order. He was held in high repute and was much esteemed by the potentates of India. Amir Khan now repaired to the Court of Holkar, who received him very cordially and engaged him in his own troops. The politic Maratha went so far as to give him a rank in no way subordinate to his own and stooped to regard him on terms of equality with himself. From that time, though the final authority continued to remain with Jaswant Rao Holkar, Amir Khan obtained unbounded influence over his troops. The destinies of the soldiery were in the hands of Amir Khan, who could keep or remove them at will. Moreover not one of the soldiers grew jealous of Amir Khan, or entertained feelings of animosity towards him on account of the paramount influence he thus wielded, for the diplomatic Mahomedan had mastered every art to please his lawless troops. Whenever the soldiers were in want of money, Amir Khan never scrupled to allow them to recoup themselves by plunder; and not only did he connive at these unjust practices, but took an active part himself in the pillage that his soldiers resorted to. In course of time the ranks of this plundering militia were swollen by bands of Pindharas and other free-booters who joined Amir Khan. Though these Pindharas were more of an undisciplined mass of marauders than of regular soldiers, they sometimes on critical occasions acquitted themselves with such gallantry and exquisite skill as would put to shame the sword of a long-tried warrior.

Holkar rewarded the services of Amir Khan by the grant of several districts in Malwa and Rajputana in perpetual *Jagir* to him and his descendants, and these possessions were popularly known by the name of the "Seronge estate." The number of Pindharas in the pay of Amir-

Khan gradually went on increasing with rapid strides, till in 1806 his army consisted of thirty-five thousand free-booters and 115 guns. At this period the other Maratha dignitaries of the realm, who had once lived on plunder, had ceased to follow that ignominious pursuit and had set up independent principalities for themselves. Amir Khan, however, on the contrary, instead of desisting from it, went on, each day, developing and fostering the abominable and wicked practices of the vile Pindharas. Desperate adventurers and daring outlaws from the surrounding districts in Central India, together with men who were troubled by want of employment, joined his ranks every day and increased his strength. Though Malwa was their centre of operations, they often in small bands roamed over distant regions and extended their murderous arms to remote corners of the Empire. From time to time they lent help to the armies of the Maratha chiefs, who in return harboured them in times of distress and afforded them shelter. At the conclusion of each rainy season they would venture out of Malwa, and like so many locusts descend in large masses on some hapless tract and would suck the very life blood of the neighbouring populace. Their avarice led them to commit horrible crimes and their iniquities were often attended with such monstrous cruelty as would cause us shudder and make our hair stand on their ends. They would plunder countless unfortunate villages; for the purpose of extorting money from some ill-fated capitalist they would fasten bags of burning ashes and powdered chillies to his mouth and thus coerce him into showing the place where he had hid his cherished treasure; they never shrank from beating their victims with relentless cruelty. Whole villages, with their unfortunate inmates, were put to the flames without any remorse to serve their sinister purpose. The tale of their innumerable deeds of guilt does not stop here, for alas! their unappeasable greed for money often led them to even more infernal and diabolical atrocities. Hosts of ill-fated wretches, who were suspected of their wealth, were burnt alive by igniting their vestments, drenched in oil, with a torch. Numerous innocent men thus suffered death and the whole country was infested by these bands of Pindharas, who had become a regular plague to their neighbours. In the year 1812 not less than sixty thousand Pindharas had joined the standard of Amir Khan.

Amir Khan also played a despicable part in the social tragedy that overtook the family of Rana Bhim Sinh of Mewad. The armies of Raja Man Sinh of Marwad and Raja Jagat Sinh of Jaipur were at this period drawn up in hostile array, intent upon killing each other, and the prize of the contest was the beauteous Krishna Kumari, the fair damsel of Mewad. According to popular report Jagat Sinh had an immense treasure and the lynx-eyed Ameer bounced upon his prey in a moment, and did not fail to make most of this milch cow.

He kept Gafur Khan, his brother-in-law, at the court of Indore to watch over his interests and himself marched at the head of a large band of Pindhari followers, and in 1806 joined the camp of the Raja of Jaipur, at the village of Gingoli. The plains of Gingoli, witnessed a deadly contest between the opposing armies and innumerable soldiers from both sides lost their lives while fighting. Raja Man Sinh was vanquished and, beaten back with great loss. His camp was plundered by Amir Khan, who proceeded to the very gates of Jodhpur and laid siege to that capital of Marwad. The siege lasted for full five months, but in the meanwhile the resources of Jaipur were quite exhausted. His treasures were drained to the very bottom by the greedy Amir Khan and his rapacious followers, who sucked out the life-blood of the State. The leeches continued to cling on till the very last drop of blood had been extracted, after which they went over to the other side. After the sack of Jodhpur, Amir Khan was won over by Raja Man Sinh with tempting promises. The renegade deserted the cause of Jaipur and going over to the side of Marwad, perfidiously turned his arms against his old ally. On the outskirts of Jaipur the troops of Jagat Sinh were put to rout and the plundering Pindharas were let loose upon his territories. Jaipur, Marwad and a large portion of Rajputana were frightfully devastated by the pillage and rapine which followed in the train of this ill-fated struggle. The unscrupulous Amir Khan never shrank in the least from these monstrous atrocities.

When Rajputana had been thus laid waste and its princes completely humbled,* Amir Khan in 1809 turned his victorious arms against Nagpur.*

* It is believed that the Bhonsle rulers of Nagpur were descended from the Ranas of Mewad. In the year 1853, when Raghoba Bhonsle, the Chief of Nagpur, died without any issue the State was annexed to the British dominions, pursuant to the policy of Lord Dalhousie. It was under the rule of this Governor General that the policy of not permitting Native princes without issue to adopt heirs to their *gadi* and of annexing

The State was then governed by a Maratha potentate of the Bhonsle family. Amir Khan led his troops against Nagpur, with the intention of seizing the kingdom for himself. While he was thus engaged in this expedition in 1810, he was instantly recalled to Malwa to the relief of his own estate at Seronge. Seronge had been invested on all its sides by the British army and Gafur Khan hastened to send a messenger to Nagpur to apprise Amir Khan of this event. Gafur Khan desired him to proceed at once to the camp of Holkar, whither he repaired from Nagpur. At this period Jaswantrao Holkar was affected by a malady of the brain and had become a lunatic. The administration of the State was consequently vested in the hands of Amir Khan. His troops met the English army, but there was no exchange of blows between them. A truce was concluded, which, however, did not last long. Hostilities were again resumed by Amir Khan, who carried on desultory warfare in Rajputana and Malwa to keep his soldiers engaged and quite ready to brave the approaching storm.

In the month of December 1816 a large British army was ordered to proceed towards Malwa for the suppression and total extinction of the Pindharee free-booters. Amir Khan was then detained before the walls of the fortress of Madhavrajpur, in the territories of Jaipur, which he had besieged. The British Government set on foot vast preparations on an imposing scale, for the annihilation of the different bands of Pindharas under Amir Khan, Cheetoo, Karim Khan and Dost Mahmud. One hundred and sixteen thousand warriors with 300 guns were got ready and posted at various quarters for the purpose of suppressing them on all sides. Amir Khan raised the siege of Madhavrajpur and instantly prepared himself to fight the British army. On the 26th December 1816, a large party of Pindharas, under the immediate command of Amir Khan, entered into the lists with a British detachment under Major Lushington. The fortunes of the day were against the Pindharas, who were totally vanquished with loss of eight hundred in killed. They were hemmed in on all sides by the advance-guards of the detachment, posted in all directions by the British, and could

their possessions to the British dominions was inaugurated, but this illiberal measure had to be dropped after the great Mutiny of 1857. When the dominions of Nagpur were amalgamated their area extended over nearly 76,432 square miles. The Rajas of Nagpur were regarded in rank and power, as the rivals of the Nizams of Haidarabad. Their territories, with certain additions made to them by the British Government, are now known by the name of "the Central Provinces" and are under the sway of a Chief Commissioner, whose head-quarters are at Nagpur.

find no place of safety, where they would conceal themselves for a time. Thus baffled and discouraged, Amir Kahn, in 1817, unconditionally surrendered himself to the British Lion. A treaty of alliance was effected between him and the victors, by which it was agreed that Amir Khan should materially reduce the number of his followers and should hand over the artillery to the British Government and that reserving to himself the districts in Malwa and Rajputana, obtained in *jagir* from Holker, he should restore all the remaining possessions, conquered by the force of his arms to their original holders.

In accordance with this agreement the districts of Seronge, Perava, and Gogala Nemahera were confirmed in the possession of Amir Khan and his hereditary descendants for ever. The fortress of Tonk Rampura, with the territories subordinate to it, was added to his dominions, as a special grant of favour. The British Government was also pleased to grant him a sum of Rs. 300,000 in cash; and the district of Palwal was also granted to the son of Amir Khan as a life-estate, to cover the expenses of his maintenance. It was so agreed for the purpose that the possession of that district was to continue with the British, who were only to pay, out of its annual revenues, a sum of 150,000 rupees in equal monthly instalments of 12,500 rupees each, to the Prince. Amir Khan accepted the terms thus dictated, but he refrained from affixing his signature to the document for a time; for in secret he was awaiting, with eagerness, the result of the war which the British Government were carrying on with Bhonsle of Nagpur, and he was anxiously desirous of abiding by the issue of the great battle of Sita Baldi, which was then impending. On the 30th December 1817, victory was on the side of the British arms on the hills of Sita Baldi and the last ray of hope died in the breast of Amir Khan, who then put his hand to the treaty of peace with the British.

Amir Khan now fixed the seat of his government at Tonk and commenced a peaceful reign of progress, order and tranquillity. According to the natural law of the equality of action and reaction, peace and quiet now followed the great storm that had preceded. Amir Khan then presented quite a novel phase in his character, which strangely contrasted with his old traits and past habits. The heartless Amir, who with shocking cruelty had plundered hosts of defenceless villages, now passed into Amir Khan, the paradigm of piety and mercy, who graced the throne by his shining qualities, broad-minded sympathy and universal compassion. The rapacious Amir,

who had cruelly extorted money from the hapless capitalist by tying to his mouth bags of hot ashes and pounded chillies, now gave way to the humane Amir Khan, who, intensely attached to the soil he ruled over, was deeply engrossed in advancing the prosperity of his subjects. The monstrous Amir, by whose orders whole villages were laid in ruins and enveloped in destructive flames, now turned his attention solely towards the construction of large buildings of public utility and amply providing similar conveniences to weary travellers in his realm. The sanguinary Amir, who had delighted in sucking the blood of the destitute populace of Jaipur and Marwad and who with an iron-hand had devastated large tracts in Rajputana and crushed down by his oppression the vanquished subjects, was now replaced by the pious Amir Khan, who was affectionately devoted to the people under his sway. He now passed his days in great simplicity and devoutness; his chief occupation now consisted of the reading of the Koran and other religious tracts of the faith of Islam. He spent his time in the company of *Mullas* and other spiritual guides, from whom he used to receive initiation in holy and divine precepts. With every advance in old age he began to grow more and more apprehensive, like the Emperor Aurangzeb, of his approaching death and as to what response he would dare give on the day of his final Judgment before his Creator. Anxious to make full amends for his past deeds of sin, he embraced paths of virtue and righteousness with a vengeance and timidly kept back from the slightest suspicion of guilt. He had twelve sons; and Amir Khan laboured very hard to give them proper moral training from their very infancy.

In the year 1832, when Lord William Bentinck, the Governor General of India, came down to Ajmere on a tour, Amir Khan, attended by six of his sons, proceeded to the place to pay his homage to the Paramount Power and to receive the honour of a visit from him. As a memento of the great wars in which he had taken part, he, on this occasion, kept with him all his sons arrayed in full armour. During this visit Lord Bentinck was very favourably impressed by the courteous manners of Amir Khan, who won the heart of the Governor General by his brilliant parts and amiable disposition.

Amir Khan breathed his last in 1834; his eldest son, Vazier Mahmud Khan, ascended the *gadi* of Tonk after him. The loyal Nawab rendered yeoman service to the British Government in their adversity at the time

of the great Mutiny in 1857. For this attachment to the British Crown, he received from them a *Sanad* of adoption, authorizing all rulers of Tonk who had no issue to adopt heirs to the throne, in accordance with the Koran and without the payment of any *nuzerana*.

Nawab Vazier Mahmud Khan, after a useful rule of 30 years, died on the 18th June 1864. His son, Mahmud Ali Khan, was raised to the throne of his father. The reign of the new Nawab was marred by a very sad catastrophe, which eventually brought ruin upon his own head. In the vicinity of Tonk there was situated a small *jagir* of the name of Lava; Dhirat Sinh, a Rajput chief, was in possession of this estate at the time. In the year 1865, the aggressive nature of the Nawab induced him to make some very improper demands upon the Rajput, which Dhirat Sinh flatly refused to accede to. Upon this, the Agent to the Governor General readily interceded and tried to bring up an amicable settlement of the dispute. The rash Nawab, however, heeded not these friendly efforts and getting up a large army, instantly assailed the estate of Lava. Many lives were lost on both sides, but the Nawab was at last beaten back with great loss. Even then an attempt was made by the British Officer, present on the spot, to effect a reconciliation between the combatants, but the arrogant Nawab, Mahmud Ali Khan, did not desist from keeping up all the empty parade and pompous show of a grand military display. The Sardar of Lava was, from time to time, guided by the well-meaning advice of his prudent uncle, Revat Sinh. That Rajput courtier was a very courageous warrior and a shrewd and intelligent diplomatist; and it was with his advice that his nephew, Dhirat Sinh, could preserve intact his legitimate rights till the close of the year 1865. From that period till the end of the year 1867, Dhirat Sinh was again in the service of the Nawab of Tonk, and, in that capacity, often came into contact with him. On these occasions the Nawab was enabled to fathom the character of Dhirat Sinh, who was concluded by him to be an incapable youth, at once devoid of sense and experience. It was only on the strength of his uncle, Revat Sinh's courage and foresight that the Sardar of Lava ventured to withhold his assent from the improper demands of the Nawab. All this was clearly divined by Mahmud Ali Khan, who now began to plot the destruction of Revat Sinh and thereby accomplish his evil designs. With a view of carrying out his murderous purpose, he, with seeming cordiality, invited Dhirat Sinh and his uncle, Revat Sinh, to the court of Tonk under the pretence

of awarding them rich dresses of honour, as a mark of his confidence. The deluded chief of Lava, thereupon, proceeded to Tonk, accompanied by his uncle and a few trusted body-guards. The crafty Nawab received the two Rajput chiefs with great hospitality and gave them a beautiful mansion for their residence. Hakim Sarvar Shah was at the head of the ministry at Tonk for the time and he sent a word to Revat Singh, calling him first to his presence to deliberate upon certain important topics as to the Nawab's beneficent intention of restoring certain tracts, conquered from Lava, to Sardar Dhirat Singh, and decorating them both with dresses of honour. The dodge worked well, and the ever wary Revat Singh was thrown off his guard and caught on the bait. He never suspected that a trap was lying in wait for them under the smooth pretensions of the cunning Diwan. According to the arrangements proposed, Revat Singh was to wait upon the minister at nine on the night of the 1st of August, when the crowning event of the catastrophe was to come off. On that night Revat Singh, accompanied by his two sons, two officers and fourteen attendants, repaired to the house of the Diwan at the fixed hour. The vile Diwan had been selected by his inhuman master as his instrument to carry out his murderous designs, and he ordered the Rajput attendants to wait below, while Revat Singh, with his sons and officers, was asked to come into his presence. Just when they had gained the last step of the stair case their heads rolled down under the blows of assassins, concealed there for the purpose. The attendants waiting below were all massacred by the troops of Tonk, which were lying in ambush and were thence called out by the prearranged signal. Only one Rajput escaped destruction at their hands and succeeded in reaching the place of their residence. There he found that his master, Sardar Dhirat Singh, was in the same mansion and was closely hemmed in on all sides by the Nawab's forces. For three days Dhirat Singh courageously held out from his residence, heedless of the awful privation he was reduced to; he could get not a morsel of food, not one drop of water, yet he thought not of surrender. On the fourth day the Nawab sent three Sardars of honour and rank to him, who guaranteed the security of his life and asked him to present himself before the Nawab. Dhirat Singh approached the ruler of Tonk, and boldly censured the cruelty and perfidious treachery he had practised with his guests, and reminded him of the divine retribution that would one day descend upon his head. The vile Nawab was stung to the quick by this terse appeal and could only reply that it was

no use pining over an irrevokable past ; that what was done could never be undone, and that it was Dhirat Singh's good fortune alone that had saved him from the cruel fate of his uncle, by allowing him to stay back at his residence. Dhirat Singh, under the escort of a party of guards, was sent back to his house, where he was placed under custody. When the British Government was apprized of this news, one of its officers was instantly despatched to Tonk, who, soon after his arrival at the place, liberated Dhirat Singh from the clutches of the Moslem. When Tonk had become a scene of this bloody massacre, the Nawab had simultaneously ordered 1,000 cavalry with forty guns to march to the conquest of Lava. They approached the castle walls and had opened a sharp cannonade on its battlements.

The perfidy and cruelty of the Nawab, which had resulted in this atrocious tragedy, were not allowed to go unpunished. The British Government instantly ordered an inquiry to be instituted, wherein the guilt of the Nawab and his vile accomplices was proved to the hilt. The British Government made an example of the offenders, who were very strictly dealt with. Nawab Mahmud Ali Khan was deposed from the throne and ordered to be exiled from Tonk ; the blood-thirsty Diwan was confined as a state-prisoner for the full-term of his life ; and the assassins, who had perpetrated the horrible deed, were for ever banished from the dominions of Tonk. The dethroned Nawab was kept a prisoner at Benares, where he was to receive an annual sum of 60,000 rupees from the revenues of Tonk for his maintenance. Diwan Hakim Sarvar Shah was imprisoned in the fortress of Chunar. As a further penalty, the salute of honour, to which the rulers of Tonk were entitled, was reduced from fifteen to eleven guns. The estate of Lava was taken away from under the supremacy of Tonk and its Sardars were placed under British protection.

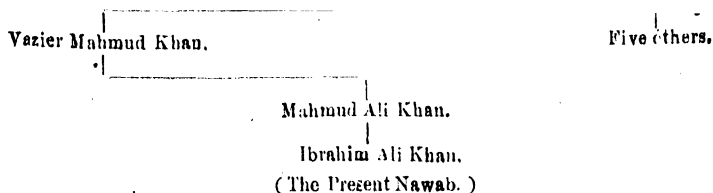
After the deposition of Nawab Mahmud Ali Khan, his eldest son, Mahmud Ibrahim Ali Khan, was installed on the *gadi* of Tonk on the 1st January 1868. At the time of his accession he was only twenty years old, and had not attained sufficient maturity of understanding ; the state was also deeply immersed into heavy debts and liabilities ; a Council of Regency was therefore appointed at the head of the Government, with sole powers to carry on the administration of the State. Abdulla Khan, the uncle of the Nawab, was nominated the President of the Council, while his son Sahebzada Ubdulla Khan, was appointed to act as the Minister or the Secretary of the Council.

of Regency. In the year 1870 the Nawab attained years of discretion and assumed independent powers over the administration of the State. He grew suspicious of his ambitious cousin, Ubdulla Khan, and removed him from office, in the year 1874. At first the Nawab thought of conducting the affairs of the State in person without the help of any responsible officer by his side; but shortly after, he saw the impracticability of the task and appointed Ibdulla Khan, who had already served as President of Regency Council with marked ability and singular devotion to the throne, at the head of the ministry. The Nawab still continues to take personal interest in the administration of the State and evinces great solicitude for the welfare of his subjects. His efforts for the reduction in the State expenditure and the liquidation of a large portion of the onerous liabilities of the State deserve special commendation.

In the year 1875, Nawab Mahmud Ibrahim Ali Khan, the present ruler of Tonk, proceeded to Agra to pay his homage to the august visitor, His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales. He was also present at the grand *Fête*, held there in honour of the Royal visit. In the year 1877 when Her Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria assumed the proud title of the "Empress of India," the Nawab was present at the Grand Imperial Darbar, held at Delhi, by the Viceroy, Lord Lytton, to celebrate the auspicious occasion. It was in that Darbar that the Nawab received an increase in his salute of honour from eleven to seventeen guns, as a mark of personal distinction, to subsist for his life-time. In October 1890, Nawab Ibrahim Ali Khan was made a Knight grand Commander of the Order of the Indian Empire. He has three sons, of whom, Mahmud Abdul Hafiz Khan is the eldest. The Nawab of Tonk enjoys full civil and criminal powers and is entitled to a salute of 17 guns.

Genealogical tree.

Amir Khan.



Residence.—Tonk, Hadaoti Agency; Rajputana.

URCHA.

Area.—1,933 sq. miles Population.—333,366.

Revenue.—9,00,000 rupees.

The territories of Ureha are bounded on the north by Jhansi ; on the east by the States of Alipma and Chhatarpur : the province of Sagar is situated to the south, while on the west they are bounded by the possessions of Sindhia.

The Maharajas of Ureha claim their descent from a very ancient family of great celebrity. They are Bundela Rajputs, sprung from the senior branch of the Solar race. History has not recorded as to who ruled over this land in very remote times ; the first authentic record begins from the exploits of Bir Sinh, the founder of the clan, who, by the force of his arms, conquered this ancient kingdom. The events connected with the birth and the personality of Bir Sinh are calculated to afford a novel and unique interest to the reader ; it is, consequently, proposed to trace the family history from very remote times to the reign of that hero.

First on the throne of Ayodhya sat Ikshwaku, the son begotten by Manu, the first of the Solar race, upon his wife, Satrupa. Of the many celebrated and heroic descendants of Ikshwaku, who graced the throne, the brightest jewel was Shri Ramchandra, 57th in descent from him. The god-like Ram, who is still very generally worshipped amongst the Hindus, ruled over Ayodhya and extended his benign influence to his loving subjects, who were universally happy and contented under him. His beauteous wife, the virtuous Sita, a model of female grace, chastity and devotion, was abducted by the demon-king Ravan, who was a Brahmin by birth and ruled over Lanka or Ceylon. Ravan was arrogant, tyrannical and licentious and was a pest to all the country round. To chastise him for this insolence, Ram led a great expedition against Lanka and with the assistance of the monkey-god, Hanuman, whose descendants still rule over Porbandar in Kathiawad, he conquered Lanka and killed the great tyrant, Ravan. Sita, the faithful wife, was again joined to her loving lord and they again returned to Ayodhya. During this great contest Ramchandra attained such world-wide celebrity for his military genius, as well as for all the noble and good qualities that would deck a human being, that he was looked upon as an incarnation of the Deity by the ancients, and to the present day his images are worshipped as embodiments of the divine spark.

Ram was succeeded by Prince Kusha, amongst whose descendants there came, centuries after, one important personage, known by the name of Gungrakh. It was this Prince, who raised beautiful temples of a magnificent and elegant style, in the district of Behar. Twentieth in descent from him flourished Buldeo Rakh, who was succeeded on the *gudi* by his son, Indradamun. He built the famous temples of God Jagannath at Puri in Bengal. The clan of the Burghar Rajputs took its rise from the second son of the chief, who was thirty-second in the line. King Karmashia, who was thirty fourth in descent, conquered the whole province of Benares. The second son of the chief, who was forty-sixth in the list, was styled Kemkuru. He had no progeny and being desirous of issue, he repaired to the snow-clad tops of the Himalaya mountains to practise austere penance and propitiate the Deity for the purpose. Long did he suffer unbearable hardships without murmur and with faith, yet the goddess was not pleased. At last he prepared to sacrifice himself at the shrine and was on the point of severing his head with a blow of his sword for the purpose of laying it at the feet of the holy goddess, when that universal mother, fully convinced of the sincerity of his purpose, was amply gratified. She appeared to him in all her glory and desired him to ask a boon. King Kemkuru asked for a son, and a son he had at that very moment. The Holy mother sprinkled nectar over a drop of blood that had trickled down from the person of the devoted Prince, while he was destroying himself; and out of the mixture of this drop of blood with ambrosia there sprang up a beautiful boy, who, by his exploits, became famous in subsequent history under the name of Bir-Sinh. His descendants, the Bundela Rajputs, owe their name to this *Bund* or *drop* of blood, the mythical origin of Bir Sinh, the founder of their family. Bir Sinh immediately conquered this territory, which was subsequently named, after him, Bundelkhand and began to rule over his subjects with justice, equity and parental solicitude. After him several of his descendants occupied the throne but there is a blank in the pages of history as to their deeds. Sixtieth in descent from him, came Prataprudra, the king, who founded the city of Urcha and made it populous. Entrusting the reins of government to his son, the king went to war, from whence he never returned. Next, in descent, to his son, Madhukara ascended the throne and obtained far-reaching celebrity for his qualities of Justice and liberality. He flourished in the time of the great Mughal Emperor, Akbar. Of his two sons, the elder, Ram Shah was confirmed on the throne of Ayodhya (Oudh) by Emperor

Jehangir, while the younger, Narsinh Deo, was nominated the ruler of Urcha. To recompense Ram Shah for some loss occasioned by this arrangement, the district of Chanderi also was conferred upon him and his heirs, in perpetuity, by the Mughal Emperor. Narsinh Deo had twelve sons, of whom the third, Pahad Sinh, in the reign of Shah Jehan accompanied Prince Aurangzeb in his southern expedition as far as Aurangabad. In that city Pahad Sinh populated a suburb, which to this day is known by the name of Pahadpura. The Kurarsa clan of the Rajputs, sprang from Prince Bhagvan Das, the fourth son of Narsinh Deo. After the death of the latter, Champatrai, a distant member of the same family, ascended the throne at Urcha. Emperor Shah Jehan demanded tribute from him, which he boldly refused to pay. The Mughal was highly incensed at this haughty demeanour of the Bundela chief and personally led a mighty expedition against Bundelkhand for its conquest. He laid waste a portion of the country but his arms proved ineffective against the strength of Urcha, which fort he could not reduce, and he was before long forced to retire to his capital. During the retreat the Bundelas gave the Moslems a hot pursuit and slaughtered many of their number in their flight. During the wars of succession, that blackened the pages of Mughal History after the deposition of Shah Jehan, Raja Champatrai espoused the cause of Aurangzeb, whom he assisted in his dissensions with his brothers. Champatrai was naturally acquainted with all the ins and outs of this district of Bundelkhand and perfectly knew all the secret passes, which would enable them to cross the Jumna without the least difficulty. This advantage gained for him and the cause of Aurangzeb a decisive victory over the other rivals in the contest that ensued. In one of these fights, Champatrai's son, the heroic Chhatra Sal, a youth of thirteen, boldly fought in the foremost ranks on his side. Champatrai was, on his death, succeeded by Chhatra Sal on the throne of Urcha. Forgetful of the eminent services, which his father had rendered to the Emperor, Aurangzeb led an invasion against the province of Bundelkhand, and with all the zeal of a fanatic bigot, which characterised that monarch, he tried all his oppressive measures to force the poor Hindu subjects into the faith of Islam. Chhatra Sal was, at the period of this outrage, engaged in fighting the great Shivaji in the Deccan, under the leadership of Raja Jaya Sinh of Jaipur. Shivaji ingeniously reminded Chhatra Sal of the terrible oppression, to which his subjects were subjected by the Moslem in his

absence and tried to rouse all his feelings of patriotism and attachment to his land and religion. He succeeded in his attempt; Chhatra Sal was gained over and instantly withdrawing from the struggle, he set forth for Bundelkhand, vowing vengeance on the Moslems, at the shrine of the goddess Bhavani. He drove out from the province the Mahomedan armies with great loss and instantly subjugated the whole country under him. During a period of 150 years, that followed the death of Chhatra Sal, nine princes ruled over Urcha; but no historic interest attaches to their deeds, which were absolutely of very little importance to succeeding posterity. They were, in order—(1) Jasant Sinh, (2) Bhagvat Sinh, (3) Udit Sinh, (4) Prithi Sinh, (5) Gandharp Sinh, (6) Savant Sinh, (7) Bharatichand, (8) Pajan Sinh, (9) and Vikramajit Mahendra.

During the rule of this last chief, Vikramajit Mahendra, the British Government contracted friendship with the State and concluded their first treaty of alliance (1809). The agreement was, however, violated in some of its terms, soon after, and was again renewed in 1812. At this time the Pindharas had commenced their work of plunder and destruction; they committed a frightful havoc in the neighbouring villages and had made the province of Mirzapur their centre of operations. The British authorities instantly saw that the work of their reduction would be comparatively very easy, if facilities were accorded to their troops to march through the territories of Bundelkhand. Desirous of securing this advantage, they again effected a defensive alliance with the Raja of Urcha in 1812. By the terms of this treaty Vikramajit Mahendra promised the British troops unmolested ingress into and egress out of his realm; he also bound himself to allow them to encamp on his land and agreed not to harbour any foreign troops, hostile to the British, in his State. In the year 1818 when Vikramajit had to present a *nazzar* to the Marquis of Hastings, the then Governor-General of India, as a token of his allegiance to the Paramount Power, the humbled chief remarked, with evident dislike, that it was the first time in the annals of Urcha that its chief had thus to acknowledge the supremacy of any foreign power.

Raja Vikramajit Mahendra expired in 1834. His only son, Dharam Pal, was already dead during his father's lifetime and he also had left no issue behind him. On his death, therefore, his brother, Tej Sinh, was installed on the throne. When Tej Sinh died he was succeeded by his

adopted son, Surjan Sinh. At this period Tarrai Rani, the widow of Dharam Pal opposed the accession of Surjan Sinh, whose adoption she contested. She set forth her own right to adopt as preferable to that of the widow of Tej Sinh. The British Government examined into their relative claims and found in favour of Surjan Sinh, whose claims were also acknowledged as well-founded by the neighbouring chiefs. Surjan Sinh was, however, a minor and the Rani was appointed as the Queen-Regent to conduct the administration till the new Raja attained the age of majority. During the regency of the queen the inhuman practice of enforced *Sattee*, which prevailed even upto 1847, was strictly prohibited in her dominions. She loyally rendered valuable assistance to the English during their hour of woe at the time of the great Mutiny in 1857. In consideration of this friendly attitude the British Government remitted the amount of 3,000 rupees from the annual tribute to be paid by the State.

Surjan Sinh did not long survive his assumption of independent powers in his own hands on his coming of age. With the advice of the principal feudatories of the State, his widow adopted a youth, of the name of Hamir Sinh, who was installed on the throne. He also expired in 1874, and after him his younger brother, Mahendra Pratap Sinh, ascended the *gadi*. He is the present ruling Maharaja of Urcha.

On the occasion of the Imperial Assemblage held at Delhi by Lord Lytton, the then Viceroy of India, on the 1st January 1877, in honour of the assumption of the title of the "Empress of India" by her most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, Maharaja Mahendra Pratap Sinh was present and was honoured by an increase in his salute from 11 to 15 guns. Pratap Sinh, who was twenty years old when his elder brother died, was recognised as his successor. A British Officer was temporarily deputed to supervise the State-administration.

On the 4th June 1874 Pratap Sinh was entrusted with the government of his State and before the end of the second year of his reign *i. e.* in May 1876 the British Officer was withdrawn. In 1880 all transit duties in the Urcha State were abolished and the fact was notified in the *Gazette of India*.

Formerly the Maharaja of Urcha paid a tribute of 8,000 rupees to Jhansi for the *jagir* of Teranli. On the lapse of Jhansi the payment passed to the British Government. The British Government remitted it

as a reward for the services, the Maharaja rendered in 1857, together with the *istimrari* revenue of Mohanpur, which amounted to Rs. 200.

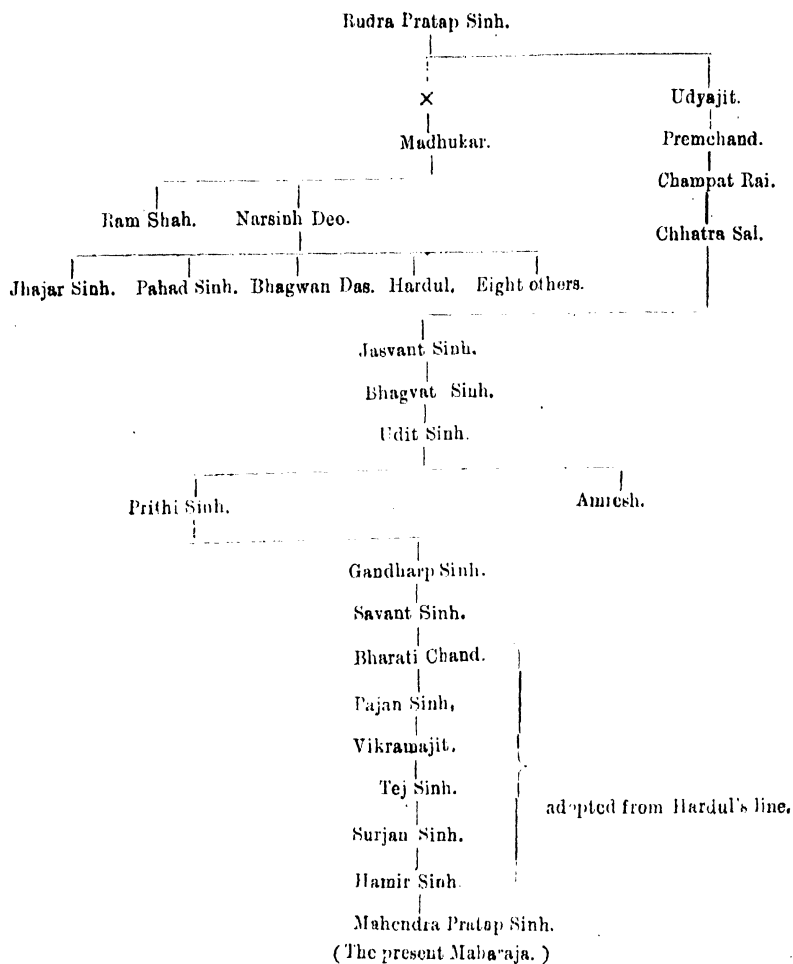
Although the salute attached to the Chiefship is of 15 guns, Pratap Singh receives one of seventeen as a personal distinction. In 1886 the Government of India conferred on the Chief the title of Saramad-i-Rajaha-i- Bundelkhand, (the first of the Princes of Bundelkhand) as a hereditary distinction. Also the title of "Sawai" is conferred on him and his descendants.

In 1884 the Maharaja made over land free of cost for the Jhansi-Manikpur State Railway, but afterwards claimed compensation, which the Government of India paid under the special circumstances of the case. In 1888 the Maharaja ceded to the British Government civil and criminal jurisdiction in the land acquired for the Railway.

The Maharaja of Urcha enjoys full civil and criminal powers and is entitled to a salute of 15 guns.



Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Uruha, Bundelkhand; Central India.

ALWAR.

Area.—3,024 sq. miles. Population.—682,926.

Revenue.—23,24,310 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the British District of Gurgaon, the Bawal *Pargana* of Nabha State, and the Kot Kasim *Pargana* of Jaipur; on the east by the State of Bharatpur, and Gurgaon District; on the south and west by the State of Jaipur.

The rulers of Alwar are Cachhava Rajputs of the Solar dynasty. The country was known in ancient times as Mewat and hence the ruling family is known as Mewatis. The Mewatis have ever been in prominence since the establishment of the Mahomedan rule in India in 1206. They were at first a fierce and cruel race, carrying on their predatory pursuits in the neighbourhood of Delhi. In the days of the Mahomedan Empire their ravages habitually extended to the very gates of the august capital, and occasionally even the palace of the mighty chiefs was no sanctuary against their rude and profane intrusion. Even their wild design of taking the life of the Emperor had frequently no air of impossibility about it, when we consider their dash and daring. Gya-suddin Bulbun collected a large army and expelled about a *lakh* of these greedy, grasping bravoos out of the Empire in 1266. The Taglakh dynasty came to an end in 1412, and the empire was again overwhelmed with anarchy and disorder. The confusion and the chaos again offered them an opportunity, which the free-booters were not slow to take advantage of, and they returned to their hereditary pursuits. Their strength was again broken by the attack of Syed Mubarak in 1429, when they were butchered mercilessly in large numbers and the few who survived the terrible carnage escaped in different directions. For the next three hundred years, they remained in complete obscurity, engaged now and then in small skirmishes. They were now led by no able leader, were divided into innumerable small gangs and were devoid of any talents for war.

The civil war for succession, immediately following the demise of Emperor Aurangzeb in 1707, thoroughly weakened the empire; and Raja Jaya Sinh II. of Jaipur commenced a series of attacks against the Mewatis, in order to reduce to subjection the home of these depredators. The hostilities lasted for a period of fifty years, and ended in a conquest by Jaipur of some of their territories. In 1763 Prithuraj II. succeeded Madhu Sinh on the throne

of Jaipur; but being in his infancy, the administration was conducted by his step-mother: her rule proved a complete failure, resulting in mismanagement and disorder. This was the proper opportunity for the Mewatis to retaliate. The decade between 1764 and 1774 was a period in which were commenced those memorable attempts of the Mewatis to throw off the yoke of Jaipur. They ranged themselves under the lead of Sirdar Pratap Singh, the head of the Masukha Rajput clan and the Jagirdar of Macheri in Mewat. In the internecine feuds of the Jats of Bharatpur the party of Mirza Najaf Khan received Pratap as their ally, and his services were of great value to them. He was rewarded by the Mirza with the dignified title of a **Rao Raja** and was granted a *Sanad* for the kingdom of Macheri. His status as an independent sovereign dates from this period, as also the cessation of even the last vestige of his vassalage to the Court of Jaipur. Pratap Singh found an opportunity for reducing the fortress of Alwar, which belonged to the Jat princes of Bharatpur, and seizing it, availed himself of their weakness. He so far succeeded in strengthening his position that he even removed his court from Macheri* to Alwar. Lest the prosperity of his kingdom should excite the cupidity of other powerful foes, he discouraged the cultivation of the soil, leaving large tracts of land unfurrowed and desolate; he erected many fortresses and kept them well-garrisoned for the purpose of defence against the advance of the enemy.

Rao Raja Pratap Singh died in about 1800. As he had no issue, he had taken in adoption a near relative, named Bakhtavar Singh, who was then enthroned. Brave though Pratap Singh was, a large portion of his territory was wrenched from him by the frequent raids of the Maratha marauders. In common with the other States of Rajputana, his principality was repeatedly run over by the rapacious Marathas between 1803 and 1806. Wearied of their incessant inroads, he acknowledged the supremacy of the British Government, and preferred the shield and the secure shade of its protectorate. Though sufficiently protected by the British Government, the Mewatis served them an ungrateful turn by pillaging the neighbouring British territory. Bakhtavar Singh tried his best to curb the instincts of his race, for which he was rewarded by the Paramount Power with the cession of the *parganas* previously conquered from them by the Jats of Bharatpur, and which had till then been withheld

* The old capital Macheri is thirty miles from Alwar to its south and a little to the east.

from them. The British and Alwar territories were so very conterminous and interspersed with each other that political differences were not of unusual occurrence between them. In order to put an effectual stop to this discreditable state of affairs, a settlement on the lines of complete separation was amicably arrived at between the two powers, which had to pay mutual compensation. In 1808 disputes arose with Bharatpur in connection with the river Mahanusania, which passes through the Bharatpur territory in its easterly course. The waters of the stream were of great use to both for the purpose of agriculture; but they were dammed up by Raja Bakhtavar Singh; the matter was settled through the intervention of the British Government after a prolonged dispute.

In the year 1811, the Rao Raja's wrath was aroused against the Mahomedan religion, and he ordered a wholesale and general massacre of his Mahomedan subjects in cold blood, together with the demolition and the desecration of their mosques. The poor victims who survived had their ears and noses lopped off and they were thus sent abroad through the neighbouring Moslem States, with a view to wound the feelings and susceptibilities of their co-religionists. As if his beastly passion was not satisfied with the blood-shed and with his barbarous treatment of the living victims, foul indignity was offered to the dead by having even their bones disinterred and their solemn repose disturbed in the sanctuary of their graves. He formed, about the same period, an alliance with the Jaipur State without the permission of the British Government and began obtrusively to intervene in the internal management of the State. When this fact reached the ears of the Government, both the Chiefs of Jaipur and Alwar incurred their serious displeasure. The treaty with the State of Jaipur was cancelled, and the State was consequently removed from the British protectorate. Raja Bakhtavar Singh, when called upon to render an explanation, replied that there was absolutely nothing in the terms of the treaty of 1803, which precluded him from forming any separate alliance whatsoever with other States. In the light of this construction, a new treaty was arranged in the month of July 1811, by which Bakhtavar Singh, the Rao Raja of Alwar, bound himself not to enter into any direct political alliance or connection with any other native State without the knowledge and permission of the British Government, nor to acquire fresh territories by conquest.

In spite of the express stipulations of the new treaty to the contrary, Bakhtavar Sinh seized the fortresses of Dhobi and Sikrava, and occupied the subordinate *parganas* in 1812. The British Resident at Delhi in friendly terms advised him to give up the possession of his new acquisitions, but the Rao Raja turned a deaf ear to his advice. Seeing that it had not the desired effect, the Resident at last sent an army against him. When he saw the approach of the British forces in right earnest he discreetly surrendered his arms, and agreed to withdraw his troops from the fortress and the *parganas*, and to pay 3 *lakhs* of Rupees as the war indemnity for the expenses of the expedition.

At the time of his death in 1815, Rao Raja Bakhtavar Sinh had two sons, one was his nephew, Bane Sinh, whom he had adopted during his life time, and the other was his illegitimate son, Balwant Sinh. The succession to the throne was disputed by both of them. The cause of Bane Sinh was espoused by the Rajput *Sirdars* of Alwar, while that of Balwant Sinh, by Nawab Ahmudbax Khan. After some blood was spilt on both sides the contest was brought to a happy termination by a compromise, by which it was settled that Bane Sinh was to be enthroned and styled Rao Raja, the sole management of the State, however, resting with Balwant Sinh. This arrangement was sanctioned by the British Government. When he reached the period of manhood, Bane Sinh began to feel the awkwardness of his position and naturally desired to be freed from his oppressive bondage. With this object, he seized Balwant Sinh and kept him in close custody, and before proceeding to Delhi to visit the Resident, he determined to put to death the Nawab, Ahmudbax Khan. He had him assassinated, but the assassins were seized, and on being closely questioned, they disclosed the names of some of the courtiers of Alwar, who were implicated in the matter. The Resident demanded their surrender, which Bane Sinh refused and he continued to maintain his defiant airs until the approach of the British arms, to enforce compliance with their demand in 1826. The Resident compelled him to make some arrangement for the maintenance of Balwant Sinh, and his liberation from captivity. The courtiers who were accomplices in the murder were tried but were acquitted, as the charge could not be brought home to them; but the Rao Raja was informed that they should not be employed in the State service, as there was a very strong suspicion against them of their criminality. The Rao Raja, however, disregarded the instructions of the Resident

and gave them high posts of trust and honour in the State. This demeanour of the Rao Raja highly displeased the Government, who expressed their unwillingness to receive any visit from this their haughty and overbearing feudatory.

In 1831 information reached the Government of some correspondence between the Rao Raja of Alwar and the Maharaja of Jaipur, and of an attempt on the part of the Alwar Chief to induce the Jaipur Prince to accept his fealty and grant him a dress of honour. The letters were intercepted by the Government, who showed them to Bane Sinh, and gave him distinctly to understand that the obligations of their treaty were now at an end. They conveyed to him a strong expression of their displeasure at his want of good faith and perfidious conduct towards them. Preparations were also made to send a small detachment against the Chief, who had thus shown himself to be utterly unworthy of their confidence. The Rao Raja acknowledged his guilt, but prayed to be pardoned. Immediately after the Mutiny of 1857, Bane Sinh died and was succeeded by his son, Shivdin Sinh. At that time he was only thirteen years old and was completely under the thralldom of the Mahomedan officers of the State. This excited the jealousy of the Rajput Sardars, who forced their political opponents, the Islamites, to leave the boundaries of Alwar and settle at Benares in 1858. The nonage of the Rao Raja led to disorder and mis-management in the State. The British Government thereupon appointed a Political Agent, with a Council of Regency to assist him in conducting the administration in a more efficient style. Though the Rao Raja attained his majority, he was not entrusted with the sole administration till 1866, owing to the displeasure of the Government at the turbulence of his character, which gave rise to serious disputes, and grave disturbances in the State. In 1867 it was found that he was redeeming his past wild character, and he was then invested with absolute powers. He died in 1874, without any issue. Mangal Sinh, a son of Hardev Sinh, a near relative of the deceased Rao Raja, was taken in adoption and placed on the throne.

Rao Raja Mangal Sinh attended the Imperial Assemblage of Delhi in 1877, and met with a stately reception, befitting his rank and position. Several extradition treaties for the mutual surrender and pursuit of criminals have been effected between Alwar and the border-states, Jaipur, Bharatpur, Patiala and Nabha. In 1879, the Chief entered into an agreement with the Paramount Power for the suppression of salt manufacture

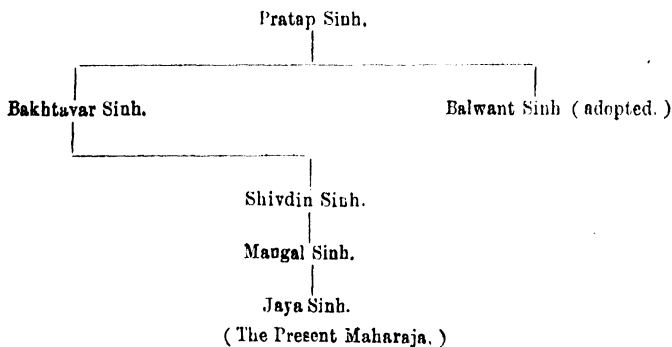
and the abolition of all transit duties, except upon opium, spirits and other intoxicating drugs. The Rao Raja was created an Honorary Lieutenant Colonel in the British army in 1885, and the following year he was enrolled as a Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India. He received the dignified title of Maharaja as a hereditary distinction in 1889.

In 1892 Maharaja Mangal Sinh breathed his last, and was succeeded by his only son, Maharaja Kunwar, Jaya Sinh. He is the present ruling Chief and is only fourteen years old. During his minority the administration has been conducted by the State Council, under the guidance of the Political Agent.

The Maharaja of Alwar has full civil and criminal powers and enjoys a salute of 15 guns.



Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Alwar, Alwar Agency ; Rajputana.

DEWAS.

Area.—289 sq. miles. Population.—1,52,073.

Revenue.—6,75,000 rupees.

The State of Dewas is situated to the south of the province of Malwa. It is fringed by Ujjain and the dominions of Sindhia on the north, north-west and south-east, while it is encircled by the territories of Holkar in the west and south-west directions. Two rulers enjoy the sovereignty of this State, one Senior and the other Junior, who both are styled Maha Rao Rajas of Dewas.

The Chiefs of Dewas are Maratha Rajputs and are Puars by family descent. The original founder of this stock was the same Shiwaji Patel, from whom the rulers of Dhar trace their direct lineage. Krishnaji, his son, was the father of three children, Babaji, Ryaji and Keruji. Of them Babaji had two sons, Sambhaji and Kaluji. Both of them rose to high commands in the army of king Shahu, a descendant of the great Shiwaji. This Sambhaji was the ancestor of the present Puar rulers of Dhar. Kaluji had four sons, Krishnaji, Tukaji, Jiwaji and Manaji; of whom Tukaji and Jiwaji accompanied the great Peshwa, Baji Rao, in his expedition against Malwa, in 1725-26. It was at this time that they were allotted the districts of Dewas, Sarangpur, Alote and other lands, yielding an annual income of 42,900 rupees for the subsistence of the military detachments under them. Out of this sum, however, they had to pay twenty-six thousand rupees as tribute to several Rajput Sardars. Shortly after this, the districts of Hamerpur in Bundelkhand and of Kandoba in the Duab were ceded to them and their descendants.

The two Chiefs, however, could not long retain these districts; quarrels and dissensions arose between the two brothers, by whom the estates were equally apportioned between them. Their descendants again reunited and their possessions were thrown into one stock. During their *regime*, Sindhia, Holkar and the Pindharas led plundering expeditions against their territories from time to time. Their defenceless ryots suffered great hardships from these ceaseless incursions. Meanwhile the districts of Hamerpur and Kandoba were wrested from their hands and Sindhia made himself bold to snatch from them the estate of Sarangpur. This possession was, however, restored to them in 1818-19, at the conclusion of the great war against the Pindharas.

The Senior branch of the Dewas Chiefs traces its descent from Tukaji I, the elder of the two brothers, who had accompanied Baji Rao Peshwa to Malwa. Tukaji had no progeny, and in consequence, adopted a grandson of his elder brother, who became his heir with the title of Krishnaji. He also left behind him no issue and was succeeded by his nephew, Tukaji, who was adopted by him. Tukaji ruled over Dewas till 1824 and when he expired, his adopted son, Rukmanund Rao, better known in History as Khaseh Saheb, succeeded him on the *gadi*. His rule lasted till 1860; after his death, Krishnaji Rao, who was also his adopted son, ascended the *gadi* of his ancestors. The new Puar was a minor at the time; the chief control over the administration was consequently entrusted to his hands only in 1867, when he attained his age of majority. This Chief has been wedded to the princess of Gwalior, a daughter of Maharaja Sindhia.

The Junior branch of the Dewas rulers is descended from Jiwaji, the younger brother of Tukaji. Jiwaji left behind him two sons, Sadashiva and Anand Rao. After the death of Sadashiva, his brother ascended the *gadi*, owing to the premature demise of Prince Rukma, the son and heir of Sadashiva. Anand Rao was succeeded by his son, Hybut Rao, who also died, leaving no heir behind him. One Nilkanth Rao, a grandson of Manaji, the youngest son of Kaluji, the original founder of the Dewas stock, was then adopted and placed on the ancestral *gadi*. On his accession to the throne he assumed the title of Anand Rao II, and continued to rule till his death in 1837. He also left no heir and was consequently succeeded by his adopted son, Hybut Rao II. He expired in 1864 and after him, Narayan Rao *alias* Dada Saheb, the present Puar of Dewas ascended the *gadi*. During his minority the affairs of the State were administered by his minister, Govind Rao Ramchandra.

Maharaja Narayan Rao Puar was present at Indore on the occasion of the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and attended the Grand Darbar held there in honour of the Royal Guest. He was present also at the Imperial Assemblage, held at Delhi, on the 1st January 1877, on the occasion of Her Majesty Queen Victoria's assumption of the title of "Empress of India."

At the conclusion of the great war with Baji Rao Peshwa and the Pindharas in 1818, when the territories of Dewas were brought under the protection of the British Government, Tukaji II ruled over the Senior and

Anand Rao II, over the Junior *gadis* of Dewas. By the alliance then effected the Paramount Power recognised them as rulers of Dewas, Alote, Sarangpur, Gurguchah, Baghaod and Bingnaod; while the two Chiefs, on their part, agreed to forbear from all intercourse with foreign powers and maintain for ever a British Subsidiary force at their capital; they also bound themselves to pay, for the expenses of the army, an annual sum of Rs. 35,600. The district of Sarangpur, which had been wrested from their hands by the aggressions of Sindhia, during the incessant eruptions of the Pindharas, was also restored to them at this period.

In 1898 the Rajas of Dewas handed over the district of Baghaod to the British, to enable them to introduce many desired reforms in the Political machinery of their State. They, however, continued to receive from its revenues a sum of 6,600 rupees, the surplus which remained in the hands of the English after deducting the necessary expenses incurred by them. At the time of the Great Mutiny in 1857 the Chiefs of Dewas firmly adhered to the British Government and loyally rendered them valuable assistance. In 1862 the Paramount Power rewarded their services by granting them *Sanads* authorising them to adopt, in case they had no children.

In 1864, the Chiefs of Dewas agreed to surrender, free of any charge, all lands required for the construction of a railway, and to part with their jurisdiction over such lands ceded to the Government. As no railway was constructed so as to run through Dewas territory, this agreement was not acted upon till 1890, when a similar cession of territories was made for the branch line, running from Ujjain to Bhopal through the Dewas State.

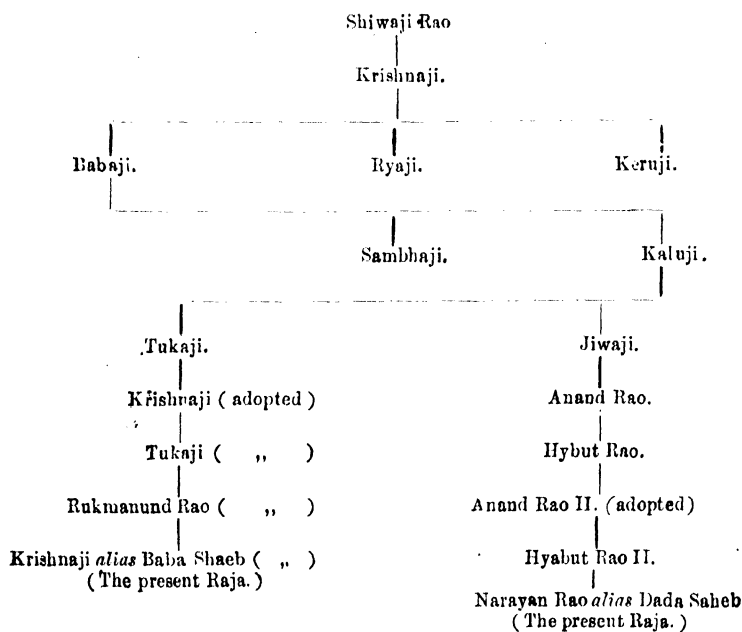
In 1881, all transit duties on salt were agreed to be remitted to the British, who promised to compensate the Chiefs by an yearly delivery of several *maunds* of salt. In 1883, a cash payment of Rs. 412-8-0 was substituted for this payment in kind, and thus the agreement with Dewas was brought on the same footing as with the other Central India States. Two years later, all transit duties, with the exception of those on opium, were abolished throughout both the States.

In 1882, Narayan Rao Puar, of the Junior branch, died in the very prime of his life, without leaving any children behind him. Malhar Rao, a son of the chief's half-brother, was accordingly adopted to him, and installed on the *gadi* in that very year.

The Chiefs of Dewas are entitled to a salute of 15 guns and they enjoy large civil and criminal powers, though in trials for heinous offences their jurisdiction is subject to the supervision of the British Political officers.



Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Dewas, Indore Agency ; Central India.

DHAR.

Area—1,739 sq. miles. Population.—167,504.

Revenue.—800,000 rupees.

The State of Dhar is bounded on the north by Ratlam and on the east by the dominions of Holkar. On the south it extends to the valley of the Narbada and is bounded by the Barwani State ; on the west it touches the dominions of Ali Rajpur, Jhabua, Jobat and the tract of Amjhera, which owns the sway of Sindhia.

The rulers of Dhar are styled Maharajas and are Puars by blood. In remote times the ancestors of the present ruler emigrated from Malwa, their native land, and took up their abode in the neighbourhood of Poona. Shiwaji Puar, the original founder of this line, occupied the post of a *patel* or headman in the village of Multan, thirty miles to the north-east of Poona. Shiwaji Puar, his son, Krishnaji and his grandsons, Babaji, Ryaji and Keruji, besides being cultivators, were all engaged as Silladars in the service of their sovereign. Babaji had two sons, of the names of Sambhaji and Kaluji, who both rose to eminent positions in the military service of the great Shiwaji, the celebrated founder of the Maratha Empire. The three sons of Sambhaji, Udaji, Anand Rao and Jagdeo, fought with great valour and courage in the Maratha army, led by king Shahu, a descendant of Shiwaji. Shahu recognised their meritorious services by conferring on them prominence over all the other Maratha chiefs, and it was in virtue of this grant that Puar chiefs always claimed priority over Sindhia and Holkar, who were originally mere menials in the service of the Peshwa. Udaji Puar, who has been mentioned above, rose to a very exalted rank in the Maratha State and was respected by all the other chiefs. He even claimed the friendship of king Shahu and his great minister, Baji Rao Peshwa. The Peshwa, however, grew jealous of the rising power of Puar and his influence with Shahu, and on some got-up pretext Udaji was arrested and put in chains. Udaji Puar was thrown into confinement and though his own descendants continue to hold, to the present day, the position of the *Patels* of Multan, the name of Udaji has never since been mentioned in the pages of Maratha History. When Udaji had been thus removed, the honors of his office were then bestowed, by the Peshwa on his brother, Anand Rao Puar, the *Patel* of Kaora. Anand Rao

* This Shiwaji was of course different from the great founder of the Maratha *Raj*, who also bore the same name.

was deputed, in 1734, to levy tribute from the provinces of Gujarat and Malwa; and Dhar, with its adjacent districts, was at this time consigned to him, for the maintenance of his troops and to cover other expenses of war. The Peshwa also conferred upon him the right of collecting the amount of tribute due to the Marathas from the Rajput states in the vicinity.

Anand Rao Puar died in 1749, and his office was taken up by Jaswant Rao Puar. It was this Chief, who won the title of the "Raja of Dhar," which he transmitted to his descendants. He achieved wide spread and durable fame for his courage and liberality, and the good name which he left behind him is still cherished, with affection and gratitude, in the memories of the residents of Malwa. Like many other Maratha Chiefs, he met his death on the blood-stained field of Panipat in 1761. He was succeeded on the *gadi* of Puars by his infant son, Khande Rao, who was only two years and six months old at the time. Owing to the minority of the Prince, there was none to guard sufficiently the interests of the State, which, in consequence, suffered a great deal. Though Sindhia and Holkar continued to regard the infant as their nominal superior, they did not fail to enrich themselves at the cost of this helpless Chief. Had this state of affairs continued long the kingdom of Dhar would have been ere long blotted out from existence, and its territories meted out between its more powerful neighbours. There came, however, a turn of fortune in the affairs of the State: for in 1774 Raghunath Rao, the Peshwa's uncle, who had been hard pressed by his enemies, thought of sending his favourite wife and family for shelter to the city of Dhar. It was here that Raghoba's consort gave birth to a son, who was named Baji Rao, and who subsequently figured on the pages of Indian History as the last Peshwa of that name. The enemies of Raghunath Rao were highly incensed at this event, and with a view to seize the heir of their deadly foe, despatched a large army to invade the capital of Puar. Khande Rao Puar had not still attained years of discretion, but as he had imprudently harboured the family of Raghunath Rao, he had to bear the evil consequences, and was accordingly harassed by the invading hosts. Anandi Bai, the wife of Raghunath Rao, was too timid to hold out any resistance, and instantly surrendered the scion of Raghoba to her enemies, who restored the kingdom of Dhar to Khande Rao and carried away the persons of Anandi Bai and her son to the Peshwa's capital.

Khande Rao did not long survive this event, for he died in 1780 at the tender age of twenty-one. At this time, his wife, the daughter of Govind Rao Gaekwad, was *enceinte*, and after six months, she gave birth to a posthumous son at Baroda. The infant, who was named Anand Rao II, passed the days of his childhood at Baroda, under the protection and care of his mother and grand father, till 1797. At this time the boy prince had completed his seventeenth year and he proceeded to Dhar, the land of his father, to claim the ancestral *gadi* of Puars. He was opposed by Rung Rao Urekur, his chief minister, who had held the reins of government during his protracted absence. The minister was, however, unable to regain the seals of office, which were snatched from his hands by the legitimate claimant to the throne ; consequently he repaired to the court of Holkar for help. Holkar under the pretext of negotiating with Anand Rao Puar for a cession of territories, which, as he pretended, were to be finally handed over to Rung Rao, laid waste these tracks and appropriated some to himself. He thus fattened himself at the expense of both Puar and Urekur. Rung Rao, thereupon, sued Sindhia for help and invoked him to seize the dominions of Dhar. Daulat Rao Sindhia gave out as his credentials, that he had been expressly authorised by their liege-lord, the Peshwa, to extirpate the kingdom of Dhar ; and under the cover of this authority he annexed the districts of Angur and Soneil to his own dominions, within a space of seven years. Haraoti, which had been in the possession of the Rajas of Dhar, was wrested from their hands by Sindhia, who also succeeded in extorting an enormous amount of money from Puar. Two years later, the country was again invested by large troops under the command of Sambhaji Jaga, a Sardar of the Court of Sindhia, who defeated the army of Puar in a pitched battle, fought on the plains of Budnawar. In obedience to his master's commands, the Sardar demanded a sum of 75,000 rupees, or in default he threatened to seize the whole of the territories under the sway of Puar. Anand Rao, anxiously desirous of retaining his ancestral domains, strained every nerve to raise this large sum of money, by which he was to buy back his kingdom. He at last succeeded in collecting this amount, which he handed over to Sindhia ; but before he could get back his kingdom, which he prized so much, he was cut off by the cruel hand of death, and Sindhia remained in possession both of the money and the land. Rumour pointed out the sister of Anand Rao Puar as the murderess, who had poisoned her brother.

She had been leading a dissolute life and was yearning to seize the reins of government in her own hands, on behalf of her infant son. She failed in her attempt and after the death of her brother, she was seized by several Sardars and assassinated by them.

After the demise of Anand Rao Puar, his widow, Minia Bai, managed the affairs of the State for a time. She had conceived of her lord and was pregnant at the time of his death. At this critical juncture she strove hard to protect her person and the fetus in her womb, from the intrigues of her enemies, especially from the machinations of one, Morari Rao, an illegitimate scion of her husband's family. A strong party of supporters had rallied round her person and she proceeded to Mandu for confinement. There she was delivered of a son, who was named Ramchandra Rao. As soon as she could freely move about she repaired to Dhar, and assumed the chief authority in her own hands. With her wisdom, tact and firmness of purpose she frustrated all the attempts of Morari Rao at securing the crown for himself. She called to her assistance a detachment of troops from Baroda and with its help, she soon set herself to the task of restoring order in her dominions and effecting material improvement in the condition of her subjects. At this period the resources of the State had been completely enervated; there was no system in the modes of raising the revenues of the land. A greater portion of the territories had been devastated and had run wild. Morari Rao had appropriated the major portion of the dominions and was always threatening to usurp the rest. The treasury was empty and the pay of the soldiery had run into arrears; it, consequently, adopted the system of recouping itself from plunder and pillage, and the poor subjects were much oppressed by this state of disorder and insecurity. When affairs had thus come to a deadlock, the infant Puar, Ramchandra Rao, expired. His resolute mother, however, was still determined to hold the reins of government with unabated firmness, and with the approval of Sindhia and Holkar, she then adopted a son of her sister, who was of the same age as the late Puar and who ascended the *gadi*, with the title of Ramchandra Rao II. Morari Rao, her inveterate foe, was by this time dead, but the State had now to be afraid of a new source of danger, viz, the *Pin-dharas*. These bands of lawless free-booters, who were a plague to the country, had conquered the dominions of Dhar to such an extent that in 1817 the Rani was left in the possession of the capital alone, when the

British arms, intent upon effecting the total annihilation of these plunderers, lay encamped at the city of Dhar. It was only in consequence of the Queen-mother's courage and firmness that the State could even retain its hold on the metropolis. The revenues of the State of Puar had by this time dwindled down to an annual amount of from twenty to thirty thousand rupees only. It was on the 10th of January 1819 that this State entered into an offensive and defensive alliance with the British Government. Several tracts of country, which had been seized by rebels, were, in consequence, re-conquered by the British arms and annexed to the dominions of the State. Two years later, several additional safe guards were provided for the State, which now consisted of the districts of Dhar, Badnawar and Nalcha. The province of Bairsia was kept by the British under their own management, and they also retained the right of levying tribute from the State of Ali Mohan or Ali Rajpur. To compensate for this loss an annual sum of 1,10,000 rupees was agreed to be paid to the rulers of Dhar. In 1819, the British Government obtained from Puar a further cession of the right to levy tribute from the Rajput States of Banswara and Dungarpur.

The alliance with the British Government was a sure sign of the coming prosperity to the State of Dhar; it paved the way for its future progress and advancement in the scale of power, and secured to it all the blessings of peace and plenty. Bapu Raghunath, the clever prime minister of Dhar, was at the helm of affairs at this period; he conducted the affairs of the State with skill and ability. The foreign militia in the service of the State had increased beyond all proportion and was absolutely worthless; its number was now decreased by the Premier, who cashiered them all and retained only 300 efficient cavalry and 800 disciplined infantry. The State revenue which eight years before, had sunk to the low amount of 20,000 a year, was by the minister's exertions enhanced to treble that amount by the year 1820. Peace and order reigned supreme and feelings of confidence with the security of life and property were fully restored in the country.

The following year, in 1821, the young Chief, Ramchandra Rao Puar was wedded to Anpurna Bai, a niece of Daulat Rao Sindhia. Puar had attained the age of twelve, while the bride was only eight years old. The nuptial ceremonies were celebrated with great pomp and *eclat* at the Court of Gwalior, and this matrimonial alliance was greeted with great

satisfaction by the Sardars of both the courts. The subjects of Dhar had expected that the bride would bring with her, as dowry, territories yielding an annual income of a *lakh* of rupees; they were, therefore, much disappointed when the small district of Dekkan alone was conferred on the wife of Puar by her uncle. Some years later, even this small gift was sought to be wrested from her hands by the greedy Sindhia.

The peace and tranquillity, which had been reigning at Dhar since it had contracted the treaty of alliance with the British, received, at last, a rude shock in 1832. A new Pretender arose in the person of one, Uchet Rao, a son of the spurious Morari Rao, and a grand-son of Jaswant Rao Puar, the first chief of Dhar, who had lost his life on the plains of Panipat. He strenuously urged his claims to the *gadi* and was backed up by the aboriginal Bhils. They devastated the country, and carried plunder into the very heart of populous cities. The helpless Puar had to seek the assistance of the British and with their help, Uchet Rao was compelled to renounce all his claims to the *gadi*. An annuity of two hundred rupees was granted to him during his life time by Puar.

Raja Ramchandra Rao Puar expired in 1833. He left behind him no issue; his widow, therefore, obtained the sanction of the British Government to adopt a distant relative of the family, Malhar Rao Puar, who was till then residing in their native village of Multan in the Deccan. In 1834, the young Puar ascended the *gadi* with the title of Jaswant Rao II. He ruled for twenty-four years over Dhar and died in 1857. He was succeeded by his half-brother, Anand Rao III, who was only thirteen years old at the time. In 1857, when the Great Mutiny broke out amongst the native Sepoys, the militia of Dhar took an active part in the revolt and soon joined the rebels. The British Government, there-upon, confiscated the whole State but bearing in mind the tender age of the Chief and his pardonable indiscretion, the dominions were, at the conclusion of the struggle, restored to Puar with the exception of the district of Bairsia, which was granted to the chivalrous Begam of Bhopal. The administration of the State, was, however, retained by the British in their own hands, even after this rendition, till the young Puar attained years of discretion. In 1864 the Raja attained the age of majority and the helm of affairs was given over to him, on condition that he would unreservedly maintain the policy adopted by the British administrators, continue to work in their groove, and effect no changes in the State machinery without first obtaining the sanction of the British Agent.

In the month of March 1876, Maharaja Anand Rao Puar repaired to Indore to pay homage to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and was present in the Grand Darbar, held by Holkar in honour of their Royal Guest. Maharaja Anand Rao was also present at the Imperial Assemblage held at Delhi on the 1st of January 1877, by Lord Lytton, the then Viceroy of India, in honour of the assumption of the proud title of the "Empress of India" by Her Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. On this auspicious occasion the Maharaja of Dhar was knighted, being enrolled as a Knight Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India. Maharaja Anand Rao is a cheerful and peace-loving Prince, compassionate by nature and ever anxious to promote the welfare of the State.

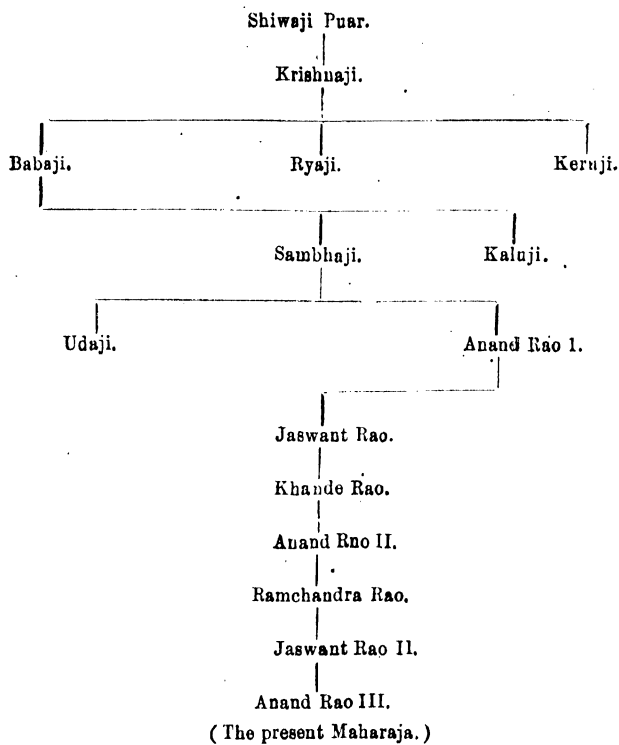
In 1836 the Government of India recognised the jurisdiction of the Maharaja over the guaranteed Thakorates, which the latter claimed by a prescriptive right and long and continuous usage.

In the year 1899 the Maharaja lost his only wife, and as he had no son, he, with the sanction of the Supreme Government, adopted his nephew, Uduji Rao Puar, younger son of his own half-brother, Sambhaji Rao Puar Appa Saheb. The Chief has since married another Rani.

The Maharaja enjoys a salute of 15 guns, and is endowed with full civil and criminal powers; in cases of capital punishment, however, the confirmation of the British Government is deemed necessary before the execution of that extreme penalty of law.



Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Dhar, Bhopawar Agency ; Central India.

DHOLPUR.

Area.—1,200 sq. miles. Population.—299,729.

Revenue.—9,59,000 rupees.

The State of Dholpur is bounded on the north and north-east by the district of Agra; on the south-east by the river Chambal; and on the west by Karauli.

The history of Dholpur that has travelled down to us covers an important era in the annals of Rajasthan, extending over a period of one hundred and fifty years. The ancestors of the present Chief were originally the Zamindars (land-lords) of Gohad.* They were very brave and enterprising and their assistance was sought by the illustrious Peshwa, Baji Rao, in his wars with the other rival powers (1725-1740). The Peshwa raised them from the position of mere Zamindars to that of quasi-independent chieftains, owing allegiance to the Brahman rulers of Poona. The name of the Zamindar who formed such alliance with the Peshwa is not definitely known to us, yet this much has been ascertained that he flourished in the middle of the 18th century of the Christian era. He was after his death succeeded by his nephew, Lakindar Sinh. This prince was also a valiant and a wise ruler and he strove his utmost to enhance the territorial extent of his newly created principality, when the Marathas were engaged in the fatal campaign of Panipat in 1761. The Chief of Gohad, predicting their defeat and destruction, remained aloof and taking advantage of their absence, reduced the citadel of Gwalior to submission. For six years he remained undisputed master of the fortification, when in 1767 the Marathas, regaining their lost greatness, directed their troops, under the command of Raghunath Rao, then on his way to Delhi, towards Gohad with a view to put a stop to any further aggrandizement on the part of Lakindar Sinh. The Maratha army proceeded direct upon Gohad and besieged the fort. Lakindar Sinh was not a man who would easily yield to the Marathas. He had in his service well-disciplined troops and well-manned artillery; with these he was sure, he could cope with the Marathas for any length of time. Raghunath Rao expressed his willingness to enter into negotiations with the Chief and a treaty was eventually concluded, by which the Rana agreed to pay

* Gohad is 25 miles to the north-east of Gwalior and from part of the territory of His Highness Sindhia. It is 40 miles to the south-east of Dholpur.

300,000 rupees to the Marathas, who in their turn agreed to raise the siege and quietly return to their country. The Rana paid them the stipulated amount and the Marathas under Raghubath Rao retraced their steps towards their mother-land. Within a short time, however, Madhaji Sindhia arrived there and laying siege to Gwalior, took it by storm. Though the Rana was a mere feudatory prince, under the allegiance of the Marathas, he never paid them due homage, but on the contrary often took up arms against them. In 1779 when the English and the Marathas were fighting for supremacy, Lakindar Singh entered into an alliance with the English against his own masters. The principal conditions of this engagement were, that the English should supply troops to the Rana for the protection of his dominions; that the Rana should prefer no claim to any part of the territories conquered by the combined efforts of their joint armies, except only to such portions as formerly formed part of the estate of Gohad; that the Rana should be entitled to receive a share in such of the possessions acquired from their common foe as were once held by him, but subsequently wrested from him by the Marathas.

After the settling of these terms Warren Hastings, the then Governor General of India, despatched in February 1780 a British contingent, consisting of 2,400 soldiers under the command of Col. Popham, to help the Rana against his enemy. Sindhia, then a deadly enemy of the English, was also at daggers drawn with the Chief of Gohad. Colonel Popham first conquered the fort of Lahar on 21st April 1780, not however, without a fearful passage of arms between the contending armies in which the English lost 115 men, while the loss in the army of the Marathas was simply incalculable. After spending a few days in obtaining the necessary provisions of war the English marched against Gwalior. It was not an easy job to storm that stronghold, which was hitherto deemed impregnable. The defensive garrison consisted of the very cream of Sindhia's army. The battalion under Popham beleaguered the fort on all sides on 3rd August 1780, and by means of a strong battering train succeeded in effecting a breach, and the English then escalated the walls of the hill-fort and fell furiously upon the defenders. At last the celebrated hill-fort of Gwalior was stormed and delivered over to their ally the Rana of Gohad.

A treaty was concluded between the English and Madhaji Sindhia on 13th October 1781, by virtue of which it was agreed that the Rana of Gohad be allowed to retain possession of the hill-fort of Gwalior and its

dependencies as long as he observed the stipulations entered into between him and the English Government. The Rana, however, was not long in breaking those terms, and in 1781-82, he openly assisted those, who then conspired for the destruction of the English power in India. By the treaty of Sálbai, signed between the English and Madhaji Sindhia on 17th May 1782, it was so arranged that the English should restore to the Maráthas all their possessions forcibly taken by them after the date of the treaty of Purandhar, signed on 3rd June 1776. In accordance with that arrangement Sindhia besieged the hill-fort of Gwalior and Gohad. The Rana had then alienated the sympathies of the English by his past disloyal conduct, and he was not able to withstand single handed the attacks of the more powerful Sindhia. The two forts yielded to Madhaji's arms and the Rana was taken prisoner. In 1802 war was again declared between the English and Daulat Rao Sindhia. Ambaji Inglia, the Maratha governor of Gohad, seeing the speedy approach of the English troops, resorted to a wily trick and feigning to fly into rebellion against his superior, forthwith joined the British troops. By the terms of a treaty concluded between him and the English, the fort of Gwalior and other possessions were handed over to the English, to be restored to the Rana of Gohad, while the rest of the territories remained with him, exempted from the payment of any tribute to the Paramount Power. The English retained possession of the town and hill-fort of Gwalior, restoring by an agreement, dated 17th January 1804, the rest of the possessions to Rana Kirat Sinh, who had succeeded Lakindar, Sinh to the Gohad patrimony. The disputes between the English and Sindhia were brought to an end by the convention of Sirji Anjengaon, which was signed on 30th December 1803. Under the terms of this treaty the English Government obtained possession of all those regions, which were, only a few years back, held by the French between the rivers Ganges and the Jamuna, together with certain districts lying to the north of Jaipur, Marwad and Gohad. In addition to these the English were to hold Ahmadnagar, Broach, Ajanta Ghaut and the regions in the fertile valley of the river Godavari. Maharaja Sindhia was allowed to retain possession of all those districts to the south of Gohad, of which the revenues were till then collected by him in person or through some officer, nominated on his behalf, or which were held by him on military tenure for defraying the expenses of his militia.

Though the matters were thus peacefully terminated, an objection raised by Sindhia was that as Gohad had been under his allegiance for

the last 30 years, it should not now be made an independent principality. By way of compromise Gwalior and the territories under Gohad were handed over to Sindhia and the Rana received in exchange the districts of Dholpur, Bara and Rayakheda. From that date the Rana of Gohad came to be known as the Rana of Dholpur.

Kirat Sinh was not satisfied with the proposed arrangement, but he had no other alternative than to yield to the superior force of his competitor. The Rana, however, from that date, looked upon Sindhia as his inveterate slfoe. In 1831 a family feud arose between Jankoji Rao Sindhia and his mother, Baiza Bai, backed up by her brother, Hindu Rao. The Rani and her brother, taking umbrage at the indignity offered them by Sindhia, silently repaired to Dholpur, agreeing to receive an yearly pension of 10 *laks* of rupees, under the award of the British Resident of Gwalior. The Rana received them very kindly and supplied them with all the comforts of life. He began openly to hate Sindhia for his unfilial conduct towards Baiza Bai, who, on the death of Daulat Rao Sindhia without issue (21st March 1827) had adopted Jankoji Rao as her own child, and had during his nonage administered the affairs of the State.

Rana Kirat Sinh died in 1836 and was succeeded by Bhagwant Sinh. The Supreme Government sent the usual dress of investiture on the occasion of his accession to the paternal throne. During the fearful Mutiny of 1857, the flame of rebellion had spread throughout the country and a rising had actually taken place at Gwalior. The English residents were obliged to seek shelter in some other part of the country for the protection of their lives and property. Those that took refuge at Dholpur were very cordially treated by Rana Bhagwant Sinh and were thence escorted to some other place of greater safety under the guard of Rana's troops. When the Rana thus won for himself the Gratitude of the Paramount Power and obtained the dignified title of a Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, his minister, Deo Hans, acting contrary to his master's wishes, sacked some of the villages under Agra and endeavoured to usurp the *gali* of Dholpur. On his arrest the British Government condemned him to imprisonment for life and kept him under strict surveillance at Benares in 1862. The British Government conferred upon the Rana a *Sanad* of adoption along with other chiefs in 1864.

His Highness Sir Bhagwant Sinh G. C. S. I., dying in 1873, was succeeded by his grand-son, Prince Nehal Sinh, the present ruler of

Dholpur. His Highness Maharaja Dhirāja Sir Sawai Maha Rana Nehal Sinh Lokendra Bahadur attended the Grand Fancy Ball, held at Agra, in honour of the visit of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales in 1876. He was also present at the Imperial Assemblage, held at Delhi on 1st January 1877 under the presidency of H. E. Lord Lytton, the then Viceroy and Governor General, to celebrate the occasion of the assumption by H. M. Queen Victoria of the proud title of Kaiser-i-Hind. His Highness Nehal Sinh holds the dignified post of Hon. Major in the British army and enjoys a salute of 15 guns.



Genealogical tree.

Sakindra Sinh.



Kirat Sinh.



Bhagvant Sinh.



Nehal Sinh

(The present Maharaja.)

Residence. —Dholpur, Eastern States Agency : Rajputana.

DUNGARPUR.

Area.—952 sq. miles Population.—98,488.

Revenue.—1,45,669 rupees.

This principality is bounded on the north and east by Udaipur; on the south-east by Banswara; and on the south and south-west by the Mahi Kanthā Agency.

The Maha Rawals of Dungarpur claim their descent from a branch of the ancient stock of the Rana of Mewad, and are Sisodiya Rajputs of the Solar race. Rana Ajaya Sinh, who is said to have reigned at Mewad in the beginning of the 14th century of the Christian era, happened to be at deadly war with one, Munj. The Rana succeeded in defeating and turning him out of his estate. Not satisfied with the success already achieved, the Rana exhorted his two youthful sons to pursue the fugitive Munj, and bring him his severed head. The princes had no courage, but Hamir, a nephew of the Rana, accepted the challenge, and following Munj, overtook him. He cut the head of the flying foe, and placed it at the feet of his aged uncle. Ajaya Sinh, enraged at the cowardly behaviour of his sons, upbraided them, and showered opprobrious epithets upon their heads. Stung to the quick, one of them instantly committed suicide, while the other, leaving the parental roof, took refuge at Dungarpur. As to the name of the latter prince there is a difference of opinion among the bardic chroniclers. Some assert that his name was Sajan Sinh, while others hold that Sajan Sinh was thirteenth in descent from the prince, who went over to Dungarpur. He left Dungarpur and proceeding towards the Deccan, got an employment at the court of Bijapur. The great Shiwaji, the founder of the Maratha Empire, is said to have descended from him. According to another account, the principality of Dungarpur was founded by one, Rahap, who, in the beginning of the 13th century, relinquished his claim to the throne of Mewad, in favour of his younger brother, Mahap, and himself, proceeding in the direction of Dungarpur, conquered it from the hands of the Mori Parmar rulers. The supporters of the latter account trace the descent of the present ruler of Dungarpur from Rahap.

Before the time that the Imperial Sceptre was wielded by the great Emperor Akbar, Dungarpur was an independent principality. After the death of Aurangzeb in 1707, the glorious Mughal Empire underwent a steady decline. Between these two periods, the rulers of Dungarpur

owned allegiance to the Emperor of Delhi. After the overthrow of the Mughal Empire, they acknowledged the supremacy of the Marathas, and since 1818, they are under the protection of the British Crown.

Of the ancient history of Dungarpur, a very meagre account, with the exception of the names of the rulers, has come down to us. After the death of Rahap, the first Chief of Dungarpur, the *gadi* was occupied by Padamsi, Jetsi, Sawantsi, Ratansi, Narbarimsi, Bhallo, Kesarisi, Samatsi, Sabarsi, Duda, Bir Singh, Bhasansi, Karansi, Kauarsi, Pratap Singh, Gaiba, Sunn Das, Gangu and Udaya Singh successively. In 1528 when Rana Sang of Mewad and Babar measured their strength on the field of Kanuwa, this Udaya Singh, with other chiefs, fought bravely on the side of the valiant Rana. The result of this action was that the founder of the Mughal dynasty was signally defeated, and of the army of Babar, 1,500 were mowed down on the spot. The Emperor sent additional reinforcements, but they were also repulsed by the brave Rajput chiefs. While the battle was raging fiercely the Tuar chief of Raisin was bribed over to the side of the enemy, who now fought with renovated vigour. The Rajputs presented them a bold front, but losing courage at the desertion of one of their brave leaders, they retreated after a heavy loss. Among those slain in the battle, the most prominent were Udaya Singh of Dungarpur and 200 of his brave Rajput comrades.

Udaya Singh was succeeded by Prathiraj, and he, by Ashkaranji. Emperor Akbar led his army against him in 1577. The Dungarpur princes had not hitherto acknowledged the suzerainty of the Emperor of Delhi. Ashkaranji fought valiantly against the Imperial troops. While the Rajputs and Mussalmans were thus clashing their weapons on the open field, the Bhils and other aboriginal tribes were hurling upon the heads of the enemies, stones, javelins and other missiles from their mountain holes. Ashkaranji was not, however, able to hold his own against the powerful army of the Emperor, and he at last surrendered to the commander of the Mughal troops.

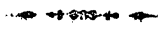
Ashkaranji was succeeded by Suhes Mal, Karamsi, Punja, Girdhar, Jaswant Singh I, Khuman Singh, Ram Singh, Bakhat Singh, Sheo Singh, Chandoji, Bairi Sal, Fattah Singh and Jaswant Singh, in regular order. During the ascendancy of the Marathas, the Rawal of Dungarpur paid annual tribute of 35,000 rupees to the Puar Chief of Dhar. In 1818 during

Jaswant Sinh's regime the sovereignty of Dungarpur was literally transferred from the Peshwa to the English, and from that date, under the terms of a treaty, this principality has continued to remain under the protection of the British Lion, paying the same amount of tribute to the Paramount Power. This arrangement lasted for three years, when the amount of tribute was lowered to 27,380 rupees (British currency). In 1819, the State revenues went down considerably, and a futile attempt was made to enhance the land assessment. Rawal Jaswant Sinh deprived his vassals and his subjects, mainly consisting of Bhils, of their cherished rights and privileges, and did many other acts of violence. The exasperated Sardars and Bhils made a common cause, and marched towards the capital with the determination of seizing it and dethroning their sovereign. He implored the assistance of the English army, which at once came down to the scene of action. Both sides were ready for the struggle, but through the intercession of some friendly mediators, the contending factions were reconciled, and the men assembled to cut each other's throats, peacefully retired to their respective homes. In 1824, the prince resumed his oppressive policy, and the ryots once more flew into an open rebellion. This time the discontented chiefs and Bhils succeeded in seizing the person of Jaswant Sinh, who was soon after dethroned in 1825. As Jaswant Sinh had no offspring, he appointed as his heir and Regent, Dalpat Sinh, the grand-son of Samat Sinh, the chief of Pratapgarh, whom he had adopted as his own son. In Dalpat Sinh's time, the State was drained of all resources, which incapacitated him from keeping his insubordinate vassals under control. These chiefs, openly defying the supreme authority of the reigning chief, managed their estates independently of their sovereign lord. In 1831 Dalpat Sinh solicited the assistance of the English army. The British authorities replied that it rested solely with the Chief of every Native State to furnish himself with sufficient means to preserve peace and tranquillity throughout his domains, and to efficiently conduct the government. Notwithstanding this, the English army did occasionally assist the Dungarpur Chief in suppressing the risings of the Bhils and other plundering tribes, infesting the whole province.

Samat Sinh of Pratapgarh dying in 1844, his grand-son, Dalpat Sinh, inherited the throne of that chieftdom. The sovereign rights over the States of Dungarpur and Pratapgarh having thus been vested in the hands of

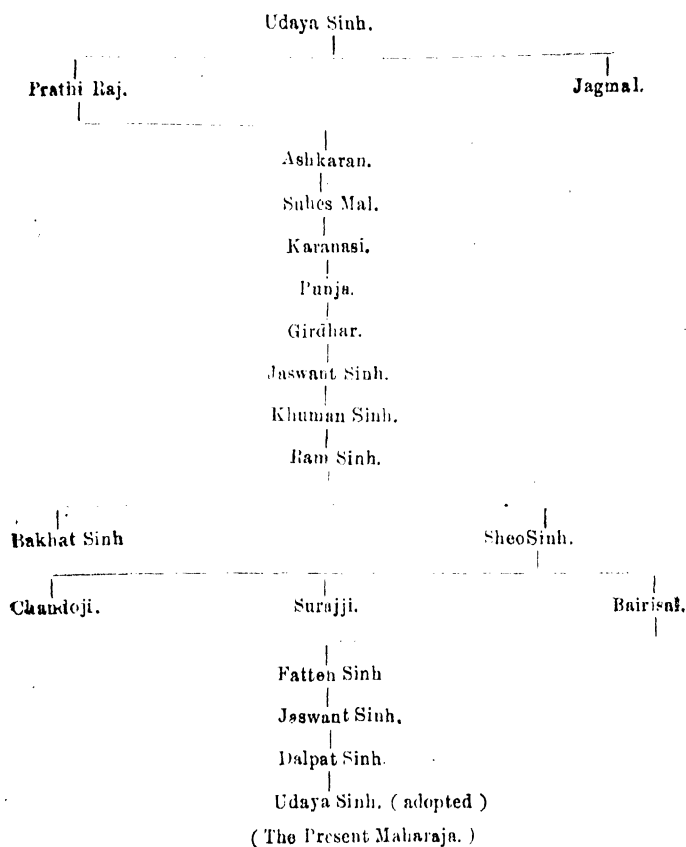
Dalpat Sinh, the Sardars of Dungarpur raised a point of objection, alleging that as the management of both the states was united in one person, there was every likelihood of their interests being neglected, and praying that the principality of Dungarpur be set apart and entrusted to some other prince. The result of this protest was that Dalpat Sinh was forced to adopt Udaya Sinh, the son of the Thakor of Sabli, to whom the *gadi* of Dungarpur was transferred. During his minority, Dalpat Sinh occasionally resided at Dungarpur and carried on the government as the guardian of the minor prince. The dethroned monarch, Jaswant Sinh, taking advantage of the existing state of disorder, assumed the title of Rawal, and vainly endeavoured to adopt another scion of his house to succeed him to the *gadi*. The British Government at last transported Jaswant Sinh to the sacred city of Muttra, and assigned him an annual pension of 1,200 rupees for his maintenance.

While Dalpat Sinh remained absent from Pratapgarh to look after the affairs at Dungarpur, there reigned disorder at Pratapgarh, and Dungarpur did not escape the same fate when the Chief repaired to Pratapgarh to look after its affairs. All the miseries and disorders of such a two-fold government lasted for eight successive years. At last the eyes of the English officers were opened to the existing evils, and in 1852, dissuading Dalpat Sinh from administering the affairs at Dungarpur, they appointed in his place a native official of rank, with the designation of Native Agent, and entrusted him with the management of the State. In 1857 the young Udaya Sinh, attaining the age of majority, was put in sole charge of the State. During the Indian Mutiny, which broke out in the same year, he loyally supported the cause of the English, and thus promoted the friendly relations existing with the Paramount Power. He has spent large sums of money in constructing good roads and building *Dharmashalas* for travellers. Every year, he gives *gratis* to Brahman mendicants a stone image of one of the Hindu deities, manufactured in his State. He has one son, whose name is Khuman Sinh. Maha Rawal Udaya Sinh has been granted the right of adoption. He has full civil and criminal powers over his subjects, and is entitled to a salute of 15 guns.



Genealogical tree.

Mahap, Padamsi, Jetsi, Sawantsi, Rutansi, Narbarimsi, Bhallo, Kesrisi, Samatsi, Subardi, Dadu, Bir Sinh, Bhasansi, Dungarsi, Karansi, Kanarsi, Pratap Sinh, Gaiba Sum Das, Gangu and.—



(The Present Maharaja.)

Residence.—Dungarpur, Mewad Agency ; Rajputana.

DATIA. (DUTTIA.)

Area.—837 sq. miles. Population.—185,664.

Revenue.—10,00,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the east by the Jhansi District, and surrounded on all sides by the State of Gwalior.

The Maharajas of Datia are Rajputs of the *Surya vanshi* Bundela race, and are connected with the Maharajas of Ureach or Tehri. This State was founded by Bhagvandas, the son of Maharaja Narsinh Deo of Ureach or Tehri, in 1735. His successors on the throne were Shubh Karan, Dalpatrai, Ramchandra, Guman Singh, Indrajit and Shatrugit. After the death of Shatrugit, Parichat ascended the throne. In his time the State passed into the hands of the British Government along with the other States situated in Bundel Khand, which the Peshwa ceded over to them in 1802-3, by virtue of the treaty of Bassein. Parichat made separate terms of alliance with the British Government in 1804. He was on the side of the English throughout the war of 1817-18 against Baji Rao Peshwa, and did substantial service; in return for which, the tract lying to the east of the river Sindh, was allowed to be amalgamated with his State, and a document to that effect was passed on the 31st July 1818. He died in 1839, without any issue. He was succeeded by his adopted son, Vijaya Bahadur. His succession was disputed by one Madan Singh, the Diwan of Barvani, who belonged to the family of the deceased monarch and who based his claim on an old document to the effect, that if a chief of Datia died without any progeny, the *gadi* should pass to one, representing the branch. But the British Government set aside his claims. After this Vijaya Bahadur died in 1857, after a rule of 18 years.

Vijaya Bahadur left no issue behind him. There were two claimants to the throne, Bhawani Singh, his adopted heir and Arjun Singh, his illegitimate son. They disputed the succession, and the British Government had again to interfere. The Government upheld the title of Bhawani Singh as being both rightful, and in accordance with the Hindu law. Arjun Singh, being discontented with the decision, conspired with the Queen Dowager, who was the guardian of the young ruler, in raising the standard of revolt and they took possession of the fortress of Sionda. The Government sent a detachment to reduce the rebels, who were all taken alive and kept as life-long prisoners in the strong-hold of Chunar. The fortress was again

placed into the possession of the Chief, and the Queen Dowager was pardoned and forbidden from all future interference in the affairs of the State. In 1861 the Barvani chief again put forth his claim to the throne, which was again rejected. Bhawani Singh, now freed from dangers from all the quarters, ruled securely over the Datia territory, and he is the present reigning Chief.

The Maharaja was present at the Imperial Assemblage held at Delhi on the assumption of the title of "Empress of India" by Queen Victoria; there he was invested with the dignity of "Lokendra."

In 1879 the Government of India entered into an agreement No. 17; by virtue of it the manufacture of salt in the town of Datia was stopped and the out-turn in certain *Parganas* was limited to 16,500 *maunds* annually. The Maharaja was to receive 10,000 rupees a year as compensation for the loss he suffered by this agreement. The import, transport and the export of salt were restricted, unless it were sanctioned by a British pass. In 1884, the sections prohibiting the import of salt were provisionally withdrawn.

A long pending question of great importance to the State was decided in 1882. It concerned the devolution of shares in the Barvani *jagir*. The point for decision was the origin of this estate. It was ruled that the *jagir* originated in a grant from Delhi, independent of Datia.

The Thakors were politically subordinate to Datia, yet the Maharaja's claims over them were not the same as over the holders of direct grants from his State.

In the same year the Maharaja granted land for the Betwa Canals. In exchange he got full compensation for the land. The Darbar ceded the right of jurisdiction and other matters connected with the canal to the Government by an Agreement No. 19 of 1888.

The Agreement No. 19 of 1888 was negotiated between Government and the Darbar, regarding the cession of civil and criminal jurisdiction in the lands acquired in 1888 in the Datia State, for the present Indian Midland Railway. The question for compensation arose, but the Maharaja declined to receive any compensation for the lands ceded for the Railway.

The Maharaja of Datia has been granted the right of adoption. He has full civil and criminal powers and is entitled to a salute of 15 guns.

Genealogical tree.

Bhagwan Das, Shubh Karun, Dalpat Rai, Ramchandra, Guman Sinh,
Indrajit, Shatrujit, Parichat and.—

Vijaya Bahadur.

Arjun Sinh.

Bhawani Sinh.

(The present Maharaja.)

Residence.—Duttia, Bundelkhand; Central India.



IDAR.

Area.—1,900 sq. miles. Population.—302,134.

Revenue.—600,000 rupees.

The State of Idar is bounded on the north by Sirohi and Mewad, on the east by Dungarpur and on the south and west, by the Ahmedabad district and the territories of the Gackwad.

The Maharaja of Idar is a Rathod Rajput of the Solar race, and his ancestors have come down from Jodhpur. Idar was in days of yore known by the name of Ildurg. In *Dwapar Yuga* (third age) it was the residence of the Rakshasa, Ailwan and his brothers, Vatapi and Atapi. These demons used to devour human beings, which rendered the whole country desolate. At last they were destroyed by Agastya Rishi.* In the *Kali Yuga* (fourth age) when Yudhishtira was reigning at Hastinapur, Venivachharaja was the sovereign lord of Idar. He had in his possession a magical image of gold, which furnished him with sufficient resources for constructing the impregnable hill-fort of Idar and the surrounding reservoirs. He had married the daughter of the snake-king (Naga-Raja) ruling over the nether regions (Patal). Venivachharaja reigned happily at Idar for several years, when at last he with his queen miraculously disappeared. "Once on a time the Raja and the Rani were seated together in an oriel window of their palace in Idargarh, when the corpse of a man, who had died in the city, was carried past followed by a mourning train. The Rani enquired the meaning of this melancholy

* This episode is narrated in the Purans as follows:—"There lived three demons, called Atapi, Vatapi and Alwa. They were blessed by the god Shiva, with the art of enchantment, by means of which they devoured the innocent Brahmins. Vatapi became food and Alwa water. Atapi became a benefactor and invited every Brahmin to partake of the food and water. The Brahmin came, and as soon as he ate the food and drank the water, Atapi cried aloud the names of Vatapi and Alwa, who having responded to the call of their brother, tore off the body of the Brahmin and came out. Thus they killed every Brahmin and ate his flesh. One day Agastya was invited by Atapi to partake of the food and water. The Rishi complied with his invitation and as soon as he ate the food and drank the water Vatapi cried aloud, as usual, the names of his brothers, but to his great surprise they did not respond to his call, as the Rishi burnt Vatapi in his stomach. Alwa, who had escaped from the belly of the Rishi, and his brother Atapi assumed different forms and began to run away when the Rishi cut off the head of Atapi. Alwa escaped and mixed himself with the ocean, when Agastya drank off the whole ocean and killed the demon. (Ram Vijaya pp. 25-6.)

pageant and was informed by her husband that the mourners lamented one who was dead. 'Let us not remain in a place like this where men die', said the Rani. Venivachharaj and his queen then went to the hill of Taran Mata (mother) and entering a fissure in the rock, close by the spot where the goddess is now worshipped, they descended to Patal.† Thereafter the land lay desolate for many years. "

Shiladitya VI, the king of Vallabhipur, and the lineal descendant of the great solar king, Ranchandraji, was defeated and slain in a battle fought with the *Yavans* in the year 524. Pushpavati, the wife of Shiladitya, who was then absent on a pilgrimage to Amba Bhavani, escaped the general destruction. The lady was then *enceinte* and she betook herself to a mountain cave in the neighbouring forest. There she gave birth to a son, who was named Goho, significant of his birth in the cave. She entrusted the babe to the care of Kamlavati, a Brahman woman of Vadnagar, charging her to educate him in Sanskrit as if he were a Brahman boy, but to marry him to none else but a Rajput maid. She afterwards immolated herself on the funeral pyre and followed her departed lord. As years advanced young Goho took to the woods in company of Bhils, who were then the masters of Idar and its vicinity, and in course of time he succeeded in winning their hearts. The Bhils once expressed their willingness to crown Goho as king of the forest, and one of the party, cutting his finger, made with its blood the usual royal mark (*Tilak*) on Goho's forehead. This act was ratified by the leader of their gang and Goho was formally proclaimed king of Idar. From this day his descendants adopted the cognomen of Ghelote. They are said to have ruled at Idar for seven successive generations, when Nagaditya, the eighth in descent from Goho, was killed by the Bhils, while hunting in the forest, and Idar once more fell into their hands. Nagaditya had at the time of his death an infant son, named Bapa, only three years old, and his mother secretly conveyed him to the stronghold of Bhandar, a mile to the southwest of Jharol, and placed him under the protection of a Bhil. He became the founder of the Mewad dynasty and his descendants are still reigning at Udaipur.

Idar once more fell into the hands of the wild Bhils after the death of Nagaditya. It was soon after conquered from them by a clan of Raj-

† Some say that this Patal was a city situated on the banks of the Indus. Forbes' *Ras Mala* Vol I pp. 303-4.

puts, called the Padihar, who came from Mandor in Marwad. They established themselves at Idar and their descendants ruled there for several generations. Idar during the time of Amar Sinh Padihar was only a feudatory appanage of Chitod. When Prathuraj Chauhan, the last of the Rajput kings of Delhi, and Shahab-ud-Din Ghorî were fighting fiercely for supremacy, Amar Sinh Padihar marched with his troops to the succour of his co-religionist against the infidel, but in the last of a series of battles he was slain. At the time of his departure for the bloody campaign, he had entrusted the administration of Idar to a very confidential and devoted Koli servant of his, named Hathi Sord. When the news of Amar Sinh's death reached the capital Hathi Sord assumed the reins of government in his own hands, and began to rule with the title of the king of Idar. He was, after his death, succeeded by his son, Samaliyo Sord.

When Shahab-ud-Din Ghorî defeated Jaya Chand, the last Rajput king of Kanouj, and subjugated his territories in 1193, the vanquished chief, while flying before the victors, lost his life in the waters of the sacred river Ganges. His grand son, Shiyoji, in despair quitted his native land and migrated towards the west in 1212. He first directed his course towards Dwarka, but turning back he settled in the sandy deserts of Marwad. From that place he began to seize the territories of the neighbouring petty chiefs. He destroyed the Gohels of Khergarh and put to death their Chief, Mohodas. He thus established a Rathod principality in the midst of the arid soil of Marwad. Shiyoji had three sons, Asodham, Soningji and Ajmal. Asodham in course of time became the king of Marwad, while the other two went to the court of Bhimdev II, the Solanki king of Anhilwad Patan in Gujarat, with a view to acquire some *jagir* by means of their own merits. Bhimdev conferred upon Soningji the estate of Sametra in Kadi. Ajmal proceeded further on to Okhamandal, and putting to the sword Bhojraja, the Chavda king, usurped his territories. Ajmal had two sons, Vagaji and Vadheli, and the descendants of Vagaji are this day known by the name of "Vaji," while those of Vadheli have assumed the patronymic of "Vadhel." While Soningji remained contented with his own estate of Sametra, Samaliyo Sord, the Koli chief of Idar, had by his tyranny proved a scourge to his subjects. "The Nagar Brahmans were at that time very numerous in the Sord's dominions, and the leading man of their caste was also the principal adviser of the sovereign. The Brahman Minister had a very beautiful daughter, whom the Raja happening one day to see, became enamoured of her and demanded her in marriage. The

minister knew that if he ventured upon a direct refusal, Samaliyo would take his daughter away by force; he therefore counterfeited acquiescence, and merely begged for six months' delay in order that he might make suitable preparations for the nuptials. In the interval he hoped to discover some powerful chieftain, whom he might call to his aid. The Brahman with this view paid a visit to Sametra and appeared at the court of Prince Soningji, to whom he introduced himself, asking him if he had the courage to take Idar, with its nine *lukhs* of revenue. Soningji willingly assented. The minister returning home, gave out that he was making preparations for the coming marriage and with a view to celebrate it formally, was assembling his relations. By twos and threes, a hundred carriages, supposed to contain Brahman ladies, conveyed to the minister's mansion the Marwadee warriors and their leader. A number of Kunbies were employed to collect goats and supplies of liquor. The minister at length announced that his preparations were complete, and set out to bid Samaliyo, Sord and his relations to the feast. The bride-groom's party arrived and was duly welcomed and freely supplied with intoxicating liquors and drugs. The minister then ordered his servants to serve the second course. This was the signal, which had been previously agreed upon. The Rajputs thereupon rushed forward and surrounded the room in which the revelling *bout* was held. The doors were then locked that no one might be allowed to escape, but a party of Kolis from without forced them open and brought out Samaliyo Sord. The chieftain strove to cut his way through his enemies, and regain the fortress, but a number of his followers were slain on the steep ascent and Samaliyo himself fell within a short distance of the gate of Idargarh. When Rao Soningji came up to the spot, where the Sord chieftain lay dying, Samaliyo raising his head for the last time, made the royal *Tilak* on the victorious Rathod's forehead with his own blood, and begged him, with his dying breath, to provide for the preservation of his name, that each Rathod Rao, on mounting the royal cushion of Idar, should be marked with the *Tilak* by a Sord, who should draw blood for the purpose, from his own right hand, and say ' May the kingdom of Samaliyo Sord flourish!' Rao Soningji assenting with all his heart, Samaliyo* soon after breathed his last, 1257. §

* Forbes Rasmala Vol. I pp. 306-7.

§ The descendants of Samaliyo Sord are to be met with at Sarvan in Pattanvada on the boundary line of Mewar. They are known by the name of Khokhar.

Soningji assumed the title of Rao and ascended the throne of Idar. After his death Idar was successively governed by Ehmajji, Dhavalmajji, Lunkaranji, Kanhatji and Ranmalji. The last of them added to his dominions Bhagor and other territories; which act of aggrandisement drew upon him the anger of the then reigning king of Gujarat. Muzaffar Shah I. twice invaded his territories in 1393 and 1398. He again marched upon Idar in 1401, when the Rao made his escape to Visnagar, and the capital remained for a few days in the hands of the enemy. When Firoz Khan raised the standard of revolt against the Emperor Ahmud Shah, the Rao of Idar lent his support to the rebel chief. Rao Ranmalji was, after his death, succeeded by Punjo. He made a bold stand against Ahmud Shah, but falling in a ditch with his horse, while escaping, he died and was succeeded by his son, Naran Das. He agreed to pay tribute to the Moslem Shah, but in 1428 he again rebelled against Ahmud Shah. He was on his death, succeeded by Rao Bhan. When Mahmud Shah invaded his dominions the Rao fled to a mountain retreat. He afterwards fell at the feet of the Moslem and gave his daughter in marriage to the infidel, Mahmud Shah. Rao Bhan had once an occasion of crossing his sword with Patai Raol, the king of Champaner. The Rao had two sons, Suraj Mal and Bhim Singh, of whom the elder, Surajmal, ascended the *gadi* of Idar after his father's death. He, dying soon after, was succeeded by his son, Raya Mal. His uncle, Bhim Singh, dethroned him and himself usurped the *gadi*. Bhim Singh began to plunder the territories of the Emperor whereupon Muzaffar Shah II. marched against him to chastise him for his impudence. The Rao betook himself to the neighbouring hills, but subsequently he laid his sword at the feet of the victor as a mark of submission, and the kingdom of Idar was restored to him. On his death Raya Mal came to the throne. This Rao had married the daughter of Rana Sang of Chitod. He was also driven out of Idar by the Mussalmans, whereupon he took up his residence at Idarwada. He defeated Zahar-ul-mulk and laid waste the Patan district. He was succeeded by Bharmalji, during whose reign Idar was twice invaded by Bahadur Shah. He was succeeded by Punjo, who, on his death, was succeeded by his son Naran Das II. The new Rao assumed a hostile attitude towards the Mughal government and began openly to defy their authority. He was at last defeated in a battle in 1573, and had to seek shelter in the adjacent hills, leaving his capital in the hands of the Mussalmans. Naran Das had a son, named ViramDev, who proceeded in

the direction of Pungal in the north of Marwad. The chivalrous youth succeeded in entangling within the meshes of his amours one Punna, the fair and charming daughter of a wealthy merchant of that place. When the whole army of Pungal marched against Viram Dev, he made a bold and valiant defence and escaped unscathed with the fair prize. "A year and a half after Viram Dev had returned from Pungal, the Emperor Akbar summoned all the Rajas of India to Delhi. The princes of Udaipur, Jodhpur, and Bandi, with others obeyed the command. They stayed for three or four months at Delhi. Rao Naran Das and Prince Viram Dev also repaired to Delhi. One day, a tiger, which the Emperor had in a cage, made its escape. Akbar gave orders that it should be caught, but his warriors answered, 'Sire! was ever a tiger braved by any living man?' Prince Viram Dev replied, 'A Rajput might perchance lay hold on him, but could not be very sure of doing so. The tiger might kill the Rajput or the Rajput might kill the beast.' The Emperor said 'you have well spoken.' Then Viram Dev set out to lay hold of the tiger; he kept a little shield in his hand and advancing it before him, soon came to fisticuffs with his furious enemy: he struck down the tiger, and wrapping a scarf round his left arm he thrust it into the brute's mouth, and with his right hand stabbed it with the point of his sword, so hard that it soon died. Then the Emperor was delighted beyond measure, and gave him a magnificent dress of honour. Akbar said, too, (alluding to Naran Das, who was spare in person) that he had thought less than he ought of the gaunt Rao, not knowing him to be the father of such a son as Viram Dev*." The Emperor restored to them their hereditary estate of Idar, where they returned soon after. Naran Das died immediately after their arrival, and Viram Dev ascended the *guli* of Idar. He ordered his brother, Raya Sinh, to be murdered and fought many a battle with the neighbouring chiefs. He was as cruel and tyrannical as he was brave and daring. He in the declining years of his reign went on a pilgrimage to Kashi (Benares) and on his way back halted at Jaipur. His half-sister (the sister of Raya Sinh) was married to the chief of that place, who invited him with great urgency to accept of her hospitality. The Rao was apprehensive that she would poison him to take revenge for her brother's death; therefore he used every precaution in regard to what he ate or drank. At the time of taking leave, a very valuable dress of honour was presented to the Rao, which, however, was poisoned. When Viram Dev got back to

* Forbes' Rasmala Vol. I, p 396.

Bheelora, within the Idar country, he forgot his fears, and put on the dress. He was immediatly seized with excruciating pains, and within an hour became a corpse.*

After the death of Viram Dev his third brother, Kalyanmal, forcibly took possession of the *gadi* setting aside the claims of his elder brother, Gopal Das. A fierce contest arose between him and the Rana of Udaipur, while he was always at variance with the Rao of Sirohi. Kalyanmal was succeeded by his son, Jagannath. Murad Baksha, the son of the Emperor, Shah Jehan, invaded Idar in 1656. On being expelled from Idar, the Rao took refuge at Pol, where he died. His son, Punjo, commenced the life of an outlaw against the Mughal authority, and regained Idar from the Mahomedans in 1658. He was succeeded by his brother, Arjun Das, who was slain while fighting against the Rehvar sect of Rajputs, and Idar once more fell into the hands of the Mussulmans. Gopinath, the brother of Rao Jagannath, took up a defiant attitude against the Mahomedan power, and regained possession of Idar. He there reigned for five years when he was driven out of Idar by the Mussulmans. He took shelter in an adjoining temple, where he died for want of opium "of which he was accustomed to take a pound and quarter a day." His son Karan Sinh, stayed to the last day of his life at Sarvan. He left behind him two sons, Chando and Madhav Sinh. In 1718 the Desais and Majmundars of Idar rose against the Mahomedan governor, and expelling the usurper, installed Rao Chando on the *gadi*. During his time the Vaghelas and Rehvars began to appropriate to themselves several villages under Idar. Chando was neither a brave nor a wise ruler and was always seeking for an opportunity to leave the capital and thus free himself from the turmoils of the State. He was prevented from doing so by his troopers, who violently demanded of him their salaries that had fallen into arrears. Sardar Sinh, the Thakore of Valasan, then happening to be at Idar, subdued the rising by becoming the Rao's security whereupon he went away from Idar entrusting the management of affairs to Sardar Sinh. Rao Chando subsequently never returned to Idar.

Rao Chando had married the daughter of the Padihar Chief of Pol, and he went to his father-in-law's and told him that he intended to pass the remainder of his life at Kashi, and that as he had already set out for that sacred place he had come there to pay him his farewell visit. He spent nearly two months at Pol and then made preparations to go to

* Rasmalâ Vol. I, p. 414.

Kashi. He set out from Pol under the guise of proceeding on a pilgrimage and made his first halt at Sarsan, a village about ten miles distant from Pol. He wrote to his father-in-law, requesting him to come over to Sarsan and sit with him on the same board, and partake of food in his company for the last time before he went to Kashi. The confiding father-in-law arrived there attended by his Rajput courtiers and sat down to a feast with Chando. The crafty son-in-law entertained his guests with intoxicating liquors to their fill, and when he saw them rolling under the effects of the drink, he put them to the sword and marching on to Pol, usurped the *gadi*. His descendants are still enjoying the estate of Pol.

After the escape of Rao Chando from Idar, Sardar Sinh conducted the administration of affairs. He first managed the State as a mere representative of the Rao, but when he found that Chando had permanently taken up his residence at Pol, he sat upon the *gadi* at the instance of the Desais and Mujmundars of Idar, and made one of his *Blayads*, Samalji, the Thakore of Lali, his premier. The Rao's first lieutenant, Samalji, was a brave and valiant soldier and he reconquered all the villages that had been encroached upon by the Vaghelas and the Rehvars. This daring exploit of his, excited the envy of many a nobleman at the court, and the Kasbatis of Idar poisoned the ears of Sardar Sinh by saying that Samalji, would one day take his life and usurp the *gadi*. The Rao giving credence to these and such other vague allegations, dismissed Samalji, and appointed in his place one, Bachho Pandit, a Dakshani Brahman of Baroda. Sardar Sinh seeing that the Kasbatis were not pulling on well with him, retired from Idar and went over to his paternal estate of Valasana. After him Bachho Pandit began to rule at Idar in his own name. He was assisted by Motichand Majmundar and Ade Sinh the Rehvar chief of Ranasan in carrying on the government. The influence of the Desais was now on the decline and Bachho Pandit, agreeing to pay tribute to the Mughal viceroy at Ahmedabad, began to reign supreme at Idar without any let or hindrance. The Desais, who were completely disappointed, went in despair to Vasai, a village under Idar, where Lal Sinh Udawat had taken up his temporary residence, while proceeding to Mewad from Gujarat, and related to him every thing that had happened at Idar. Lal Sinh promised to supply them with a good ruler if they were all willing to accept one and upon the Desais passing to him a bond, expressing their unanimous approval, Lal Sinh persuaded Anand Sinh, the younger brother of Maha-

raja Ajit Sinh of Jodhpur, and all his other brothers to repair to Idar. Anand Sinh arrived in Idar in 1731 and wrested it from the hands of Bachho Pandit. The descendants of Anand Sinh are still the rulers of Idar. Of the succession of Jodhpur chiefs to the Idar throne, two stories are told of which one runs as follows:—

Maharaja Ajit Sinh of Jodhpur was endowed with extraordinary courage and valour. Speaking of him the Dasundi bards of Idar say that he had by the prowess of his sword acquired great renown. He placed seven princes on the throne of Delhi and unseated them again. He at last placed Mahmud Shah on the Imperial *Masnad* in the year 1719. For seven days and nights the word of Maharaja Ajit Sinh was the law at Delhi. The powerful potentates of India, including the Rajas and the Nawabs lay prostrate at his feet. After placing Mahmud Shah on the throne he remained seven years at Delhi, and then returned to Jodhpur, leaving his eldest son Abhaya Sinh at the head of 5,000 horse to serve the Emperor. One day the Emperor took Abhaya Sinh with him to enjoy a sail upon the Jumna. When the boat reached the middle of the stream, the Padshah ordered the Rajput prince to be thrown into the water. On Abhaya Sinh asking the Emperor the reason of his strange behaviour he told him that he would only spare his life if he would write to his brother Wakhat Sinh to put his father Ajit Sinh to death. The prince to escape such a terrible death wrote there and then a letter to his brother telling him that he would bestow upon him the *jagir* of Nagar (Ajmere) on condition of his at once putting their father Ajit Sinh to death. When this letter reached Jodhpur Wakhat Sinh went at the dead of night to the palace of his sire and put him to death (1724).

Early in the morning of the next day the Ranis prepared to become *suttees* ; but before doing so they took with them Abhaya Sinh's half brothers Anand Sinh, Raya Sinh and Kishor Sinh to Mandor in order that their eyes may not be put out according to the Jodhpur custom. Mandor was the place of cremation for the Maharajas of Jodhpur. When the Ranis arrived at that place to ascend the funeral pyre they made over their sons to the care of their trustworthy chieftains and then followed their departed lord. Now Raya Sinh and Anand Sinh were the sons of a Chauhan princess, while Kishor Sinh was born of a Bhatiani. These princes were entrusted to the care of the Chauhan chiefs Man Sinh

Devi Sinh and Jorawar Sinh, the son of Man Sinh. They held the Putta (fief) of Raicha which yielded then an annual income of one *lakh*, of rupees ; but they abandoned it and went away with the princes and halted at Chandol a village 22 miles east of Jodhpur. Thakore Mokum Sinh, the Puttawat of Vadodra in Marwad, a Putta of ten thousand rupees, was ordered by Wakhat Sinh to pursue them and slay them or bring them back. Mokum Sinh proceeded to Chandol with 800 horse and when Man Sinh and other Chauhan Sardars saw him approach they girded up their loins and placing their 1,200 horse around them they held a council of war in their midst. The Puttawat of Vadodra dismounted at their tent and asked them to readily surrender the princes to him. The Chauhan chiefs replied that they had been entrusted to their care by the *suttees*, and that they would now make them over in the same way to him. With these words they laid their daggers before Mokum Sinh and said ' If you intend to slay them do so now ' Mokum Sinh touched with remorse answered ' Bravo Thakores ! you have done much, that you have drawn me in along with you. Now what befalls you must befall me ' The four chiefs then retired with the princes to a hill called Adowala in Marwad and became outlaws. They left their families at Karniji Mata's at a Charan village named Desanot in Bikaner. The moral influence that this Mata exerted was so great that none dared injure any one who took refuge at her temple even after murdering a mighty potentate.

Now before this, the Puttawats of Sanla, Champawat Sawai Sinh, Man Sinh, Pratap Sinh, and Jiwan Das, whose Putta yielded them a revenue of 70,000 rupees had their estates attached owing to a quarrel with the late Maharaja Ajit Sinh. They had also become outlaws, and they joined the Chauhan chiefs at Adowala leaving their families likewise at Karniji Mata's. They plundered the Imperial treasure which was being conveyed from Ajmere to Delhi. When the princes arrived at Adowala the Champawats made them a present of the plundered treasure and volunteered their services. Anand Sinh pleased with their devotion promised them that if ever he obtained a kingdom, he would confer a suitable *jagir* upon each of them as they were so very faithful to their lord. From their retreat at Adowala the princes and their partisans began to make forays upon Marwad, and it is still said of Man Sinh Chauhan in songs, that he churned Maroo-land as the *Devas* churned the ocean.

When Abhaya Sinh wrote from the ferry-boat the fatal letter to his brother Wakhat Sinh to despatch their venerable parent, the Emperor gave him the *Pargana* of Idar as a present, and he subsequently confirmed the grant by passing a deed sealed with nine mohurs. Jaguji the Purohit (family priest) of Abhaya Sinh, while proceeding from Delhi to Jodhpur with the royal firman was seized by the outlaws and carried to Adowala. The Brahman told them that Abhaya Sinh had received from the Emperor the grant of Idar, but if they would allow him to go back to Delhi, he swore that he would get the grant transferred to their names. They put their faith in the word of a Brahman and allowed him to return to Delhi. He went to Abhaya Sinh and told him that his brothers were plundering the territories of Marwad, and that the whole country was rendered desolate. He further said that eventually he will be compelled to grant them one of the 22 *Parganas* of Jodhpur, then why should he not appease them by the grant of Idar. Abhaya Sinh appreciated the cogency of the Brahman's argument, and gave him the grant which he conveyed to Adowala. It was at this juncture that Lal Sinh Udawat, as mentioned above, related to them what had passed at Idar, and asked them to take possession of it.

The princes had at that time in their service Jethawat Aderamji and Kumpawat Amar Sinh, who set out at the head of 5,000 horse, and lay encamped on the outskirts of Rohida, a village under Sirohi. The Vaghela Thakore of Posina, a Puttawat of the Rao's, blocked up the pass and did not allow the princes to advance to Idar saying that the Rao had not yet abandoned his claim to the possession of Idar. At last it was arranged that Anand Sinh should marry the daughter of the Thakore of Posina and that he should be granted twelve villages in addition to those he already held under the Rao. The villages of the Dhanal district were thus made over to the Thakore, and his daughter was wedded to prince Anand Sinh. The Desais of Idar were summoned to Posina by Anand Sinh and certain arrangements were entered into between both the parties. Afterwards they all entered the citadel of Idar on Falgun sud 7th 1787 of the Samwat era. (1731 A. D.)

When Anand Sinh reached Idar, Maharaja Abhaya Sinh had arrived at Ahmedabad from Delhi. The two brothers were reconciled, and they ever since continued to live on affectionate terms. Abhaya Sinh in addition to his granting the Putta of Idar put Anand Sinh in possession of Bijapur and Prantij *Parganas*. As long as Abhaya Sinh

held the viceroyalty of Gujarat, Idar was exempted from the payment of any tribute to the Mughal Emperor.

Two years after the arrival of Anand Sinh at Idar, the Nawab of Borsad fled to him for shelter in consequence of the constant feuds between him and his brothers. The Maharaja sent his brothers Raya Sinh and Kishor Sinh accompanied by champawats Sawai Sinh, Pratap Sinh, Jodha Mokum Sinh, Jethawat Aderamji, Champawat Jivandas and the Chauhan prince Joravar Sinh at the head of 2,000 forces against Borsad. A severe struggle ensued, but a perpetual firing of cannon was kept up from the fort, and for ten days the besiegers were not able to reduce the strong citadel. At last the Karbhari of Borsad came over and opened the gates of the fort. In the contest Kunwar Joravar Sinh received two or three sword wounds, and 50 of the Marwadi Rajputs fell on the field. The other side too had to mourn the loss of as many if not a greater number of men. The fugitive Nawab on whose behalf the Idar men had fought so bravely was reinstalled on the *gadi*. The army soon after returned to Idar though Raya Sinh at the earnest entreaties of the newly settled Nawab stayed at Borsad for eight months more.

The Rao of Pol taking advantage of Raya Sinh's absence assembled together his old Sardars with the exception of the Vaghela chief of Posina. The Sardar of Ranasan, Mohanpur, Sardoi, Rupal, and Ghodhwala with the neighbouring Bhomias (persons acquainted with the aspect of the country) responded to the Rao's summons and took a solemn pledge to fight on his behalf and regain Idar. They then advanced to Deshotar, where there were 500 horses of Dabhi Rajputs and taking them along with them, they all marched on to Idar. The Mussalman Kasbatis of Idar were very brave and to them were entrusted the batteries and gates of the city. The Sardar at the head of the Rao's army gained over these Kasbatis to their side and took the town of Idar. Maharaja Anand Sinh had been left with only two Sardars Kumpawat Amar Sinh and Chauhan Devi Sinh. They retired with the Maharaja and his family into the fortress on the hill but seeing that they were not out of danger even there, the Maharaja sent out the ladies under the Sardar's protection by a postern gate and himself left the fort by the Ghante gate, and turning to the north of the fortress went on in the hope of joining the party that had already preceded him. The Maharaja was attended by only a few horsemen, and even these were scattered in all directions. He per-

cieved a party of Rehvar horse approaching him and with a view to rally his scattered followers, he ordered his drummer to beat the royal *Nobut* (drum). The drummer remonstrated saying that their horsemen were too far off and would not be able to answer the call; on the other hand the sound of the drum would furnish a clue to the Rehvar horsemen, who would at once come up to them. Anand Sinh repeated his order in an angry tone and the drum was immediately sounded. The Rehvars following the sound of the drum, overtook the Maharaja and a sharp scuffle ensued. In the fight Chohan Devi Sinh was the first to fall and then Kumpavat Amar Sinh was severely wounded. The drum beater too was slain, when at last the Maharaja himself lay dead on the ground. Idar thus fell into the hands of Raoji (1742).

The Sonagiriji and Vagheliji Ranis of Maharaja Anand Sinh became *Suttees* at the village of Rohida. A servant girl is also said to have mounted the pyre with her mistresses. Their *Chhatrees* (monuments) may still be seen at Rohida. When the news of the death of Anand Sinh reached his brother Raya Sinh at Borsad, he at once set out from that place, and travelling night and day he stopped at a village named *Munaiya*. He remained there for four months in plundering the adjoining territory. He at length won over to his side two Barots of Bijapur and Davad, and sent them to seduce the Koli Thakores of Sabhar Kantha who were on the Rao's side. They went to them and persuaded them to desert the cause of the Rao. These chiefs refused to do so, when at length an arrangement was made by which they agreed that when the fight begins, they would fire in the air. Raya Sinh now advanced from *Munaiya* to Badoli, where he found himself at the head of 10,000 Marwadi warriors. He also succeeded in seducing two of the leading Kasbatis of Idar and at last he marched upon the capital, besieged it on all sides. Raya Sinh, with Man Sinh Chauhan, Kunwar Jorawar Sinh, Jodha Mokum Sinh, and the Champawats Pratap Sinh, Sawai Sinh, Man Sinh and Jivanudas ascended a peak of the Idar hills called "Madar Shah's toonk," and from thence they entered the city. The Kasbatis came forward to meet them, where upon the Sardars asked Raya Sinh as to what was to be done with them. The Maharaja referred them to Mama Man Sinhji, who was the royal leader of the army. He then advised them to kill the Kasbatis saying that as long as these people were alive, they would not be able to rule peaceably and happily. The Marwadis first cut down many of these Kasbatis, and then proceeding on to

the citadel, massacred many of the Rehvars who had taken shelter there. The fort of Idar falling into the hands of the victors, Raoji retired to Pol and the surviving Rehvars went to their respective territories.

When Maharaja Anand Sinh fell in the year 1742, he had a son named Shiv Sinh, who was only six years old. Raya Sinh installed him upon the *gadi* and himself took up the administration of affairs. Raya Sinh's next act was to march against the Thakore of Ranasan, who had taken a leading part in killing his brother, Anand Sinh. While advancing towards Ranasan he learnt on the way that the Thakor Ade Sinh upon whom he was determined to wreak a terrible vengeance, had already died. He however did not desist from proceeding further on and reaching Ranasan, he invested it on all sides. The young chief fled to Lunawada and took shelter with the Solanki ruler of that place who had married the sister of the fugitive Thakore. Raya Sinh seized 24 of his villages and annexed them to Idar. Ranasan continued to be under Idar's yoke for five years, but owing to the perpetual incursions of the Rehvars it was restored to them with 11 other villages.

Raya Sinh, having thus securely placed Shiv Sinh on the throne of Idar, now repaired to Modasa, where he built a large Mansion and took up his residence with his family. A Maratha force, 15,000 strong, arrived there from Poona under the command of Jankoji Sindhia's wife, and demanded tribute from Raya Sinh. The brave Rajput resisted and the garrison which consisted of only 150 Marwadi soldiers fought till they were all slain. Raya Sinh placed his wife on his horse behind him, and fastening her to his body with a scarf, he galloped off in safety to Rayagadh, a fort which he had constructed upon a hill in Marwad. He remained there for a short time, and then proceeded to Idar where he began to rule supreme, as if he were the sole monarch,

In 1741 the following eight Puttas* (fiefs) were granted by the Maharaja to his eight friends and supporters. Mundeth was given to Man Sinh Chauhan, Chandarni to Champawat Sawai Sinh, Nan to Champawat Pratap Sinh, Ganthiol to Jethawat Aderamji, Jitoi to Kumpawat

* Of the eight Puttawats of Idar with the exception of one who was Chauhan all were Ralhods, and they were known by their family names of Jodha, Champawat, Kumpawat, &c. These family names were not without their significance. The descendants of the founder of Jodhpur were called the Jodhas, those of his brother (Champs) the Champawats, and of his nephew (Kumps) the Kumpawats, and so on.

Amar Sinh, Vadiavi to Kumpawat Bhadur Sinh, Merasan (Berua) to Jodha Indra Sinh and Bhanpur to Udawat Lal Sinh. When **Raya Sinh** after his return to Idar in 1747, arrogated to himself the powers of an absolute Raja, and even began to sit on the same throne with his nephew, all these eight Puttawats thought that two swords can not be contained in one scabbard, and they sent a word to **Raya Sinh** through one of their own comrades Kumpawat Amar Sinh. He went to the chief and told him that there could not be two kings on one throne, and that he had better retire to some other place. **Raya Sinh** answered 'No one but yourself has mentioned any thing of this kind to me. Now that you have mentioned this to me no longer shall I stay at Idar, nor shall you stay here, but following my example retire somewhere else.' **Raya Sinh** then retired to Rayaghad and **Amar Sinh** went away to Marwad. The Putta of **Amar Sinh** on his departure was conferred upon Champwat **Man Sinh**. **Raya Sinh** shortly after he reached Rayagadh died there. He had no son, but had a daughter named Ijan kunwarba who was married to **Madhav Sinh**, the Maharaja of Jaipur.

When **Apa Saheb** at the head of the Gaekwadi troops marched upon Idar in the year 1788-89 at the instigation of the Rao of Pol, the Rehvar chiefs and the Bhomia Jagirdars, and began to lay waste the surrounding territory, the Sardars fled with their families to the neighbouring hill retreats. Maharaja **Shiv Sinh** alone remained in the Idar fort, which was now beleaguered by the Maratha hosts. They sent an ultimatum to the Chief that they would blow up the citadel, if he did not surrender himself to the Maratha general. The Raja thereupon went to the hostile camp attended by his sons **Bhawani Sinh**, **Sagram Sinh**, **Jalam Sinh**, **Hamir Sinh** and **Indra Sinh**. **Apa Saheb**, the generalissimo of the Maratha troops, told **Shiv Sinh** that he was the heir of **Anand Sinh**, but as **Raya Sinh** had died without issue, his share must lapse to them as the sovereign power. The principality of Idar, he said, was acquired jointly by the two brothers and that the half share of **Raya Sinh** should be surrendered to him as the representative of His Highness the Gaekwad, their liege-lord. He also held out a threat that if his demand was left unheeded, he would order his men to completely devastate the whole of the Idar territory. Simultaneously with this threat, **Apa Saheb** caused a document to be prepared for the cession of half the territory, and presented it to **Shiv Sinh** for his signature. The Maharaja answered that he had

no right to give over any portion of the territory to any one, save with the unanimous consent of all his Sardars. The Kingdom, he said, was acquired by their sword, and that he was simply ruling over it by suffrance. The Maratha officer desired the Maharaja to summon all the Sardars, but Shiv Singh replied that they would not come unless a sufficient security was given for their personal safety. On Apa Saheb furnishing that security, all the Sardars except Suraj Mal of Chandarni arrived at the Maratha camp. All the Sardars were forced by means of threats to affix their signatures to the deed for the cession of Raya Singh's share, but they exclaimed that their signatures would not hold good unless Suraj Mal signed it. Apa Saheb offered the security of one Jan Mahmud, an Arab Jamadar, and sent for Suraj Mal, who at last came attended by 120 of his brave followers. The Maratha general welcomed him cordially, and gave him the deed for his signature. The brave Rajput had no sooner read it than he tore it to pieces saying 'The Maharaja is lord of Pat (throne), but I am lord of the 'Thatha' (district, lit. building). He at once rose from his seat and effected his escape to the neighbouring hills. Apa Saheb seeing himself thus insulted was much enraged, but could do nothing to the other Sardars who had all signed the deed. At last the Maratha army marched upon Chandarni, the principal town of Suraj Mal's Putta (estate), and sacked and burnt many of his villages. The desperate Suraj Mal sought every opportunity to bounce at night like an enraged lion upon the detached parties of the Maratha host, and thus exasperated the invaders. Maharaja Shiv Singh told the General that his adversary was not an ordinary man, and that there was no saying what harm such a dangerous foe would not do to him and his followers. At last a bond for 20,000 rupees was drawn up and signed, and the Marathas returned to their dominions. On their way back they posted garrisons at Ahmednagar, Malsya and other places. The Sardars subsequently raised some of these posts, but in some places they held out to the last, and it was in these latter places that the Peshwa obtained a moiety in later times.

Champawat Suraj Mal, after the departure of the Marathas, became exceedingly proud and overbearing and began to assert boastfully that but for his valour the throne of Idar would not have been preserved in its entirety. He now took up his residence at Idar and became the first lieutenant to Maharaja Shiv Singh. He ordered the roads of Idar to be kept clean and was very

hard with those who committed the slightest nuisance. "A *Nobat-beater* of the Darbar's on one of these occasions having offended him by committing a nuisance on the public road, Suraj Mal seized him, and tying a rope round his ankle, ducked him in a pond, lowering him and pulling him out until he died. At this time Maharaja Shiv Sinh was old and infirm, while a close friendship subsisted between the heir-apparent Bhawani Sinh and Suraj Mal. On one occasion, Suraj Mal held a banquet at Chandarni to which he invited the Prince; they were seated together in the Darbar, when one of the Prince's attendants, a Bhojuk Brahman, happened to spit on the floor. Suraj Mal was in a fury, and ordered the Bhojuk to lick up the spittle with his tongue. The Bhojuk said 'I have done wrong, but now I will wipe it up with my clothes.' Suraj Mal notwithstanding insisted upon being obeyed. Then the Maharaj-Kumar said, 'He has done wrong, therefore, if you please, I will wipe it up with my own *shawl*.' Still Suraj Mal insisted, 'He shall lick it up with that very tongue.' Then the prince was angry, and getting up he went away. Returning to Idar, he related the whole story to the Maharaja and said 'There is such pride in this Sardar that he defies all authority.' The Maharaja heard but made no answer. The prince however kept his anger in his heart. The affair appeared to have been forgotten and the Kunwar sent to invite Suraj Mal to a feast. He took him up to Idargarh to inspect the fort and brought him at length to the 'palace of the mourning queen,' (*Rudi Rani ne malie*) where he slew him with his sword.*

Maharaja Shiv Sinh died in 1791, leaving behind him Bhawani Sinh, Sagram Sinh, Jalam Sinh, Hamir Sinh and Indra Sinh. Bhawani Sinh succeeded to the throne which he enjoyed only for twelve days and expired at the age of 36 years.

Bhawani Sinh was after his death succeeded by his son Gambhir Sinh, who was then 13 years old. The late Maharaja had, as we said before, four brothers, Sagram Sinh, Jalam Sinh, Hamir Sinh and Indra Sinh. During the non-age of Gambhir Sinh, his uncle Jalam Sinh sat on the cushion with the young Raja in his lap. This practice continued for several days, when the Sardars again assembled together and requested Jalam Sinh that as one scabbard could not hold two swords, he had better

* This as well as several other incidents relating to Idar have been taken from Forbe's *Rajmala*.

not sit on the throne with the young Maharaja, but beside it. He and his brothers Sagram Sinh and Hamir Sinh taking umbrage at the impudence of the Sardars, retired from Idar, took possession of Ahmednagar, Modasa and Bayad *Parganas* respectively, and established an independent chieftdom at each of these places. The fourth brother, Indra Sinh, who was blind remained at Idar and obtained the Putta (estate) of Suvar.

When Maharaja Gambhir Sinh attained the age of discretion, he in 1796 sent a word to his uncles that two districts were more than sufficient for the maintenance of the three brothers, and desired them to relinquish their rights over one of the districts. The brothers however, not complying with his demand, Gambhir Sinh marched with his army against Sagram Sinh of Ahmednagar. He halted on his way near Hinglaj, where Jalam Sinh of Modasa came up with his force, and coalesced with the army of Sagram Sinh of Ahmednagar. The combined forces made a sudden attack upon the Maharaja's camp, and a fierce scuffle ensued in which many men on both sides lost their lives. The Maharaja, fearing the consequences of an evil omen, retired with his army to Idar.

In 1799, Jalam Sinh of Modasa began to make encroachments upon the villages of Amaliara, Malpur, Mohanpur and Sardoi, but the inhabitants of these places offering him a strong resistance, he was forced to abandon his aggressions upon these territories. Samsher Khan, the Diwan of Palanpur, was in 1794 deposed by his subjects on account of his misgovernment and driven out of the capital. He went over to Idar in 1808, where the Maharaja conferred on him the village of Champalpur. PeerKhan, on behalf of the new Diwan Firoze Khan, wrote to the Maharaja requesting him not to entertain the fugitive Samsher Khan. Gambhir Sinh, paying no attention to his neighbour's letter, an army was despatched from Palanpur which succeeded in effecting an entry into Ghadwada and taking possession of the surrounding district. The Maharaja's troops marched against these intruders and instantly expelled them out of the Idar territory.

In the reign of the late Maharaja Shiv Sinh, an agreement had been entered into with the Marathas, by which they were to receive the whole revenues of the *Parganas* of Prantij and Vijapur, and a moiety of the other *Parganas* of Modasa, Bayad and Harsol together with Rs. 20,000 in hard cash. In 1812, this agreement was annulled, and a new one made, by

which it was settled that Idar should pay to the Marathas the sum of Rs. 2400, while a separate sum of Rs. 8,982 was fixed upon Ahmednagar.

Sagram Sinh of Ahmednagar dying in 1798, was succeeded by his son, Karan Sinh. In 1806 Jalam Sinh of Modasa died without issue, and Maharaja Gambhir Sinh taking advantage of this opportunity seized upon Modasa. The widow of Jalam Sinh, however, adopted Pratap Sinh, the second son of Sagram Sinh of Ahmednagar, and seated him on the *gadi*. Pratap Sinh died in 1821, when Modasa was annexed to Ahmednagar.

Hamir Sinh of Bayad also died childless, and Idar and Ahmednagar each claimed possession of that district. The claims of these rival chiefs were fully investigated, and the Political Agent at last decided in 1827 that the Maharaja of Idar should renounce his claims to Modasa and Bayad and that both of them should be ceded to Ahmednagar.

Gambhir Sinh died in 1833, and was succeeded by Juwan Sinh. Great disorder prevailed, during his minority, in the administration of affairs, and the British Government, to remedy the evil, placed Idar under their management in the year 1837. The young Maharaja Juwan Sinh was given liberal education in English and Gujarati. When he attained the age of majority the sole administration was entrusted to him in 1859.

Karan Sinh, the Raja of Ahmednagar, died in 1835 leaving behind him two sons, Prithu Sinh and Takhat Sinh. The elder Prithu Sinh ascended the *gadi* but he ruled for four years and died in 1839. He had a son who dying in 1841, the *gadi* of Ahmednagar was next occupied by Takhat Sinh.

In 1843, Maharaja Man Sinh of Jodhpur died without offspring, and the throne of Jodhpur fell to the lot of Takhat Sinh, who soon after repaired to the metropolis of Marwad. In consequence of Takhat Sinh's departure to Jodhpur, his patrimony of Ahmednagar together with Modasa* and Bayad was reunited with Idar. Jaswant Sinh, the late Maharaja of Jodhpur, was the son of Takhat Sinh, and was born at Ahmednagar.

Maharaja Juwan Sinh was a man of solid parts and was the first among the native chiefs of Gujarat and Kathiawad to receive English

* Some of these villages were held in common by the British and the Idar authorities. In that distribution Modasa fell to the share of the English Government.

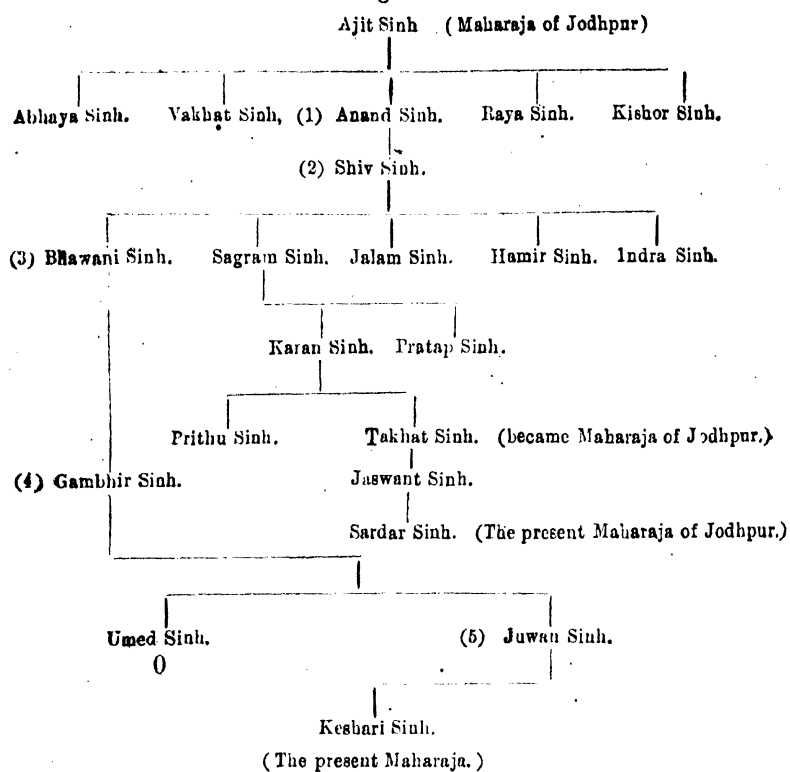
education. In recognition of his learning and manly virtues, he was nominated an additional member of His Excellency the Governor's Council for making laws and regulations. In 1868, he was further ennobled with the title of K.C.S.I. The Commissioner N. D., as representative of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, invested the Maharaja with this distinguished order in a grand Darbar held at Idar, and presented him with the medal and *Sanaul*, in the presence of many English and native officials and guests.

This distinguished and much esteemed ruler was however cut off in the very prime of his life at the age of 38 years in 1868. He was succeeded by the heir-apparent Keshari Singh, born of the Jhala Rani of Dhrangadra, who is now reigning over Idar.

When Juwan Singh died, prince Keshari Singh was only seven years old, and the British Government taking Idar under their own management sent the young Chief to the Rajkumar College at Rajkot. He there received, besides a fair knowledge of English and Gujarati, practical lessons in Politics and other kindred subjects. In 1882, on the Maharaja attaining the age of majority, the Political Agent of Mahi Kantha, in a public Darbar held at Idar, dwelt upon the many virtues and merits of the youthful prince, and entrusted him with the sole management of his State. He was created a K. C. I. E. in 1884.

Maharaja Sir Keshari Singh K. C. I. E., as a first class Chief, in Mahi Kantha, enjoys full civil and criminal powers within his dominions and is entitled to a salute of 15 guns.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Idar, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

JAISALMER.

Area.—16,447 sq. miles. Population.—115,701.

Revenue.—158,000 rupees.

Jaisalmer is bounded on the north by Bahawalpur; on the east by Bikaner and Jodhpur; on the south by Jodhpur and Sindh; and on the west by K̄hairpur and Sindh.

The rulers of Jaisalmer are Rajputs of the Bhatti tribe, a branch derived from the celebrated *Yadu* stock. In the family of Shri Adya Narayan, ten degrees removed from him, there flourished one Yadu, whose descendants attained the cognomen of *Yadavas*. Shri Krishna the incarnation of God Vishnu, was forty fourth in descent from Yadu and ruled at the famous city of Dwarka. His exploits were so great that his contemporaries worshipped him as a demi-god, and in all parts of the country he is to this day revered as a deity. The son of Shri Krishna, by his wife Jambuvanti, married Rama, the daughter of Kaubhand, who was the prime minister of Banasur, the warrior King of Misar (Egypt). The marriage was blessed with a male offspring who was named Ushnika. At the time of the general destruction of the *Yadavas*, known in the *Purans* by the name of *Yaduvasthali*, Ushnika was at his maternal home at Shonitpur, the capital of Egypt, and had thus escaped the catastrophe. After the death of Banasur, Kaubhand became the lord of Egypt, while he was in his turn succeeded by Ushnika. Devendra flourished in that family seventy-nine degrees removed from Ushnika. He had four sons, of whom the eldest, Aspat (Ugrasen), embraced Islamism. The second, Gajapat had a son, Chuda Chandra, who became the stock of the Chuda-sama tribe, reigning in Saurashtra. The third Bhupat obtained possession of certain territories between Marwad and Sindh, and became the founder of the Bhatti tribe. The last Narpat succeeded in killing Pheroze Shah, the emperor of Gizni, and usurping his territories assumed the title of Jam. The Jadeja Rajputs of Kutch and Halar in Kathiawad claim their descent from him.

As mentioned above Bhupat Singh was the founder of the Bhatti tribe. His descendants migrated and settled in some of the districts lying between the provinces of Marwad and Sindh. Bhupat originally resided at Gizni, but on being expelled from that place by the chief of Khorasan he and his clansmen migrated to the Punjab, where they dwelt in large numbers

at the town of Salbhana (probably the present Lahore), but were turned out from that place too, by the powerful king of Khorasan. Proceeding towards the great *Run* they formed connubial relations with the Rajput chief of Umerkot in Sindh, as also with the Sonigara Rajput chief of Jhalore. They erected the fortress of Tanot in the midst of the desert (*Run*) and made it their principal seat of government. The neighbouring free-booters instantly besieged this new fort, and effecting a breach in the walls they entered it, demolished the citadel, and ruthlessly massacred all the Bhattis that had taken refuge within its walls. Rawal Devraj and his clansmen escaped that general massacre and flying to other safer regions, they raised another stronghold which they named, after their chief 'Dev Rawal.' Devraj was a brave and daring prince. He besieged and conquered Lodarva, the principal town of the Lodra Rajputs, and shifted there for a time with his associates.

After the death of Devraj, the *gadi* was occupied by Mudhji, Wachuji, Dusaji, Bijaya Raj, Buj Deo and Jaisal respectively. The last of these was sixth in descent from Devraj. Perceiving that the fort of Dev Rawal was not well situated from a military point of view, he in 1156 raised another stronghold at a distance of ten miles from the old one and named it after him Jaisalmer. It still continues to be the capital city of his descendants.

Rawal Jaisal dying in 1168, was succeeded by his son Salvahan. He was also a daring warrior, but actuated by ambition, his son Bijal usurped the *gadi* during his absence from home. Salvahan fell while fighting against the Beloochis, and his son Bijal too expired in 1200. Bijal was succeeded by his uncle Kalyan Sinh. He invaded the Beloochis, completely routed them and thus adequately avenged the death of his heroic brother. Kalyan Sinh dying in 1219 was succeeded by Chachik Deo. He was like his ancestors a brave prince, and with a firm hand put down the risings of the surrounding wild tribes.

After Chachik Deo's death in 1251, his grand-son Karan ascended the throne. Conspicuous in bravery the Rawal died in 1279. The *gadi* was next occupied by Lakhudh Sen. Though kind-hearted he was superstitious to a fault. He attributed the nocturnal cries of jackals in the adjoining woods to the severity of cold, and ordering quilts to be made for their use he caused these to be placed at the mouths of their holes, and yet their cries did not cease. He then got decent dwellings built for

them. Indulging in such foolish freaks he ruled for four years and dying in 1283 was succeeded by Pompal. During his reign the relations between him and his *Bhayads* and Sardars were strained to such an extent that the latter rising against him *en masse* deposed him and placed Jetsi, the brother of the late Rawal Karan, on the throne.

Jetsi reigned for 18 years. He had the audacity to plunder the grand-son of the great Emperor, Alla-ud-Din, whereupon the Imperial troops beleaguered the citadel of Jaisalmer in 1295. The siege lasted for 8 years. In a fight with the Mussalmans, the Rawal fell and the command and throne next devolved upon his son Mulraj. At the time of his accession the royal grenadiers had opened a fearful cannonading against the citadel, but the defending garrison were more than a match for them, and by firing in return equally effective salvos the Mussalmans were beaten back. The besiegers instead of losing heart grew more desperate than ever, and the Rajputs though they made several destructive sallies upon the opposing troops, could not succeed in raising the siege. At last the besieged, finding their provisions and ammunition well-nigh exhausted, boldly determined to put on the saffron robe in accordance with their traditional mode of warfare. They first of all raised funeral pyres within the walls of the castle and consigned to flames their dearest wives and daughters to save them from pollution that might be caused by the profane touch of the infidels. Those who did not resort to this mode of destruction, mowed down their darlings with their own swords. It is said that no less than 24,000 devoted Rajputanis were thus sacrificed to preserve unsullied the fame of Kshatriya sanctity and chastity.

The male members, resolutely prepared for the same fate, and actuated by a strange superstition of meeting in paradise their beloved consorts and daughters who had recently perished in the flames, performed the customary ablution in honor of the dead, put on saffron robes, threw open the gates of the city and with blood shot eyes pounced upon their foes, with drawn sabres in their hands. The contest grew furious. Sounds of horn pipes, kettle drums and bugles were heard on all sides. Cries of 'strike,' 'kill' filled the air, and with every cry the head of a Mussalman was seen rolling on the ground. The carnage was immense. The number of the Mussalmans in slain and wounded was very great, while the Rajputs were cut down almost to a man. Pools of blood flowed knee-deep, and the battle field

presented a ghastly spectacle of indiscriminate destruction of humanity. Rawal Mulraj fell down pierced by an arrow, but instantly gaining ground he severed the heads of many a Mahomedan before his tottering frame lay prostrate on the field. It is said that though his head was cut off, his head-less trunk, sword-in-hand, fought valiantly before the gate of Jaisalmer.

The two nephews of Mulraj, Garsi and Kchar, and the Rajput Sardars under the command of Prince Devraj (who was killed), were the only persons spared to recount the tale of woe and grief to posterity. The Royal troops held the ruins of Jaisalmer in their possession for two years, but at last abandoning it they retired to Delhi. On the Mahomedans evacuating Jaisalmer, the old dilapidated ruins were occupied by the Rathods of Mehwo. Shortly after Dudo, the son of Jesar, in the line of the late Rawal Mulraj, who had even in exile assumed the title of the 'Lord of the Bhattis,' marched upon Jaisalmer and expelling the Rathods obtained possession of the old capital and began to rule there in peace.

Rawal Dudo was an enterprising prince, who drove into Jaisalmer some of the Emperor's horses. This act of indignity aroused the anger of Alla-ud-Din who again ordered his troops to march upon Jaisalmer. The scene of sacrificing the Rajput females, and the males putting on the saffron robe was repeated with the same fatal result (1306).

As mentioned above, the two nephews of Mulraj had escaped general destruction during the first campaign. They were, however, made captives and taken to the presence of the Emperor. At Delhi, they were retained as courtiers and in that sphere, they secured the confidence of the Emperor, who allowed Garsi, the elder of the two, to return to Jaisalmer and there set up a new principality on the wrecks of the old one, by gathering together his dispersed clansmen. Garsi called to his assistance his friend and relation Jagnal, the chief of Mehwo, and through his good offices succeeded in re-consolidating his ruined patrimony at Jaisalmer. His resources enabled him to maintain a force barely sufficient to keep down local disturbances, which were numerous in those troublous times. The relations of Dudo could not brook to see a creature of the Emperor set up on the throne of Jaisalmer, and they invaded the capital and slew Garsi.

After the death of Garsi, his brother Kehar ascended the throne. At the time of his accession an arrangement was made with the widow of Garsi by which it was agreed to continue the line of succession in the family of Hamir, grand-son of Rawal Mulraj. Accordingly, after the death of Kehar the Jaisalmer *gadi* was successively occupied by Kai Mal, Chachik Deo II., Bersi, Jait, Nunkaran, Bhim and Manohar Das.

Manohar Das was the brother of his predecessor Bhim, who smoothened his way to the *gadi* by slaying his nephew. Manohar Das dying without issue was succeeded by Sabal Sinh, a descendant of Nunkaran. During his reign the territories of Jaisalmer extended to the banks of the Sutlaj in the north, to the borders of the Indus in the west, to the outskirts of Marwad in the south and in the east to the boundaries of Bikaner and Marwad. The estate of Pokurn, now forming part of Marwad, was then under the sway of Jaisalmer. It was granted by the ruling Chief to a vassal of the Raja of Marwad in consideration of the valuable services rendered by him to the State of Jaisalmer.

Sabal Sinh was succeeded by his son Amar Sinh, a wise and a valiant prince. In his time Anup Sinh of Bikaner led an invasion against Jaisalmer. Amar Sinh offered him a strong resistance and in a fierce battle defeated and routed the enemy. The predatory bands, infesting and devastating the country round, were also dispersed and destroyed by this brave Prince. During the out-lawry of Ajit Sinh, the Imperial troops were ordered to march against Marwad and reduce to submission the regions of the recusant Chief. While the Royal Suba, Khawaja Sal, was securely stationed at Mandor, Amar Sinh fell upon his camp, and routed the whole army, killing nearly 1,000 Mussalman soldiers near Bagri. This engagement cost the brave Amar the lives of two of his most daring associates, Ram Sinh and Samat Sinh.

Jaswant Sinh was installed on the paternal *gadi* after the death of Amar Sinh in 1702. He was neither wise nor valiant, and was unable to preserve his dominions from the ravages of his enemies. The Rathods conquered the districts of Pungal, Barmair and Filodi together with several other towns. In the north, a considerable portion of his territories fell into the hands of an Afghan adventurer, Daud Khan, a Sardar at the court of Shikarpur in Sindh.

After his demise, a contest for succession arose between his brothers and his son Akhe Sinh. After several engagements on both sides, the rivals were reconciled, and by virtue of a treaty concluded in 1722, Akhe Sinh was confirmed on the throne of Jaisalmer. The new Chief was not a whit better than his father. He also on account of his weakness lost a great portion of his dominions. Bahwal Khan, the founder of the principality of Bahwalpur, subjugated the districts of Devrawal and Khadal then owning allegiance to Jaisalmer. Devrawal, as mentioned above, was the ancient capital of this chief-dom.

Akhe Sinh dying in 1762, was succeeded by Mulraj. The reins of government were in his time held by one of his favourites, Sarup Sinh. He by his evil advice created a feeling of distrust between the reigning Chief and his own son Raya Sinh and other courtiers. The whole administration was rotten to the core, and the State was brought to the verge of destruction, from which it was saved by Raya Sinh, who in the presence of his father severed the head of his favourite. Mulraj instated Salam Sinh, the son of Sarup Sinh in the place of his chief adviser. This brought on the crisis. Complaints of maladministration increasing every day, the leading nobles of the realm determined upon deposing Mulraj and placing his son Raya Sinh on the throne. Actuated by filial devotion, the young prince without acceding to the wishes of his vassals left for good his father's court. Salam Sinh, strengthened by the withdrawal of Raya Sinh, began to abuse the supreme authority vested in him by acts of uncommon cruelty and oppression. Ferocious as a tiger, and venomous as a snake, he made the people groan under his tyranny. He despatched hired assassins to kill Raya Sinh who was wandering in neighbouring territories, but his life was saved by the timely intercession of one of his nobles. Baffled in his design, the wicked Diwan did not sit silent. He succeeded in discovering the secret abode of Raya Sinh who was staying there with his wife and brother, and setting it on fire consumed its helpless occupants. The other members of the prince's family were imprisoned in the fort of Ramgarh, where they were mercilessly massacred in cold blood. The weak and infatuated Mulraj beheld the total wreck of his own family with the most dastardly indifference. The scheming Salam Sinh next directed his blood-thirsty eyes towards the other surviving sons and grand-sons of his benefactor. Gaj Sinh, one of the grand-sons of Mulraj, was in good odour with the wily Diwan, but the rest of his

children learning the evil design of Salam fled from Jaisalmer and escaped the pangs of cruel death in lonely prisons. The wicked favourite then made a clean breast of all the Sardars whom he thought adverse to his interests. Jaisalmer then presented a mournful sight, and all its trade came to a stand-still. In 1808, a negotiation was well-nigh formed between Jaisalmer and the British Government but all arrangements had then to be put off owing to certain unforeseen circumstances.

In 1818, Jaisalmer acknowledged the supremacy of the British Power, and a treaty was concluded on 12th December. By the terms of that treaty succession to the throne of Jaisalmer was ensured to the heirs of Mulraj; the English Government promised to assist the ruling Chief by sending British contingent to his support against his enemy, and to suppress any insurrection that might break out within his domains without his instigation or connivance. The Raja also agreed to govern peaceably under the ægis of the British Crown. No tribute was to be exacted from Jaisalmer.

Rawal Mulraj died in 1820, and was succeeded by his grand-son Gaj Sinh. He was not unaware of the many foul and wicked deeds of Salam Sinh, and was constantly in dread of his formidable Diwan. He was for a time a mere tool in the hands of his minister, who now began to lay waste the south-westerly portion of the territories of Bikaner. This act of aggression on the part of the Rawal of Jaisalmer roused the anger of the ruling Chief of Bikaner, and a cloud of war appeared on the horizon which was happily dispersed in a very short time. Salam Sinh levied additional imposts on the lands of the feudal aristocracy, and frightened the Jagirdars into submission by constantly urging that he had the approval of the British Government in all his actions. Gaj Sinh could not long brook such an impudence on the part of his minister, and once boldly asked him to settle all disputes with the feudatory chiefs; but Salam Sinh was inexorable. Rawal Gaj Sinh then made up his mind to adopt extreme measures and determined to get rid of Salam by instigating some person to treacherously murder him. The wily Salam soon learnt his fate and sending away his wife and children to his *Inami* village, he remained at Jaisalmer always on his guard against the impending peril. He however died in the same year, 1824, and the subjects of Jaisalmer were happily delivered from the oppression of a despicable tyrant. He had before his

death obtained an agreement from Rawal Gaj Singh by which the post of the prime minister of Jaisalmer was made hereditary in his family: The Diwanship was conferred on the eldest son of Salam Singh, but a younger son born of his favourite wife was also associated with his elder brother in the work of carrying on the government. The new Diwan, suspecting criminal intimacy between his step-mother and a menial of his late father, assassinated the widow who had fouled the bed of her deceased lord. Gaj Singh ordered the culprit to be apprehended and loaded with heavy chains, but his partisans rose *en masse* against the Chief for his deliverance. The Rawal had to seek support from the British Government and a contingent was sent which instantly put down the rising. Gaj Singh from that day became the unfettered monarch of all his domains and conducted the government with great tact and prudence.

In 1828, Ratan Singh was reigning at Bikaner. During his reign certain tribes inhabiting those regions of Jaisalmer which lie on the borders of Bikaner carried on plundering excursions in the very heart of the Bikaner dominions. Ratan Singh marched in person to vanquish those lawless mobs and proceeded as far as the gates of Jaisalmer. Rawal Gaj Singh at the head of his troops went out to give him a warm reception. The Maharaja of Marwad espoused the cause of Jaisalmer, while the army of Jaipur was arrayed on the side of Bikaner. The leading chiefs of Rajputana appeared determined to resort to the old method of settling their differences by sword, but the Paramount Power intervened and prevented the destruction of innumerable lives and valuable property. Rana Jawan Singh of Mewad was appointed arbitrator with full powers to settle all disputes between the contending chiefs. The states of Bikaner and Jaisalmer which were at variance for years past, were from that date reconciled to each other.

During the war with the Amirs of Sindh in 1838-9, Rawal Gaj Singh supplied camels to the British Government for transporting their army to Sindh. After the conquest of Sindh in 1844 the forts of Shagarh, Garsia and Gatuda, which were once under the sway of the Chief of Jaisalmer, but were conquered from him by the Amirs, were recovered from the Amir, Ali Murad, and restored to Gaj Singh in recognition of his loyalty to the British *Raj*.

Rawal Gaj Sinh died in 1846 without issue. His widow adopted Ranjit Sinh, the son of Thakore Keshari Sinh, a member of the reigning family, and placed him on the throne. In 1862, a *Sanad* was granted by the Supreme Government by which the Chiefs of Jaisalmer were empowered, in the absence of a male offspring, to adopt a son and heir without the payment of any royalty to the Paramount Power. Ranjit-Sinh died in 1864 without leaving any male offspring. He had, however, one younger brother named Vairi Sal who expressed his unwillingness to wear the crown of Jaisalmer. He based his aversion on the ground that the territories of Jaisalmer consisted mainly of sandy deserts which yielded no revenues, and what small income was obtained from the fertile regions was all exhausted in preserving order throughout the extensive province, without leaving any surplus towards maintaining the regal splendour of the sovereign. The British Government and the Dowager-queen attached no weight to the childish argument of Vairi Sal, and without determining on any other successor, entrusted the reins of government to Keshari Sinh, the father of Vairi Sal. In course of time the scruples of Vairi Sal were got over and he was installed on the *gadi* of Jaisalmer by the Agent to H. E. the Viceroy for the Native States of Rajputana. He was then only 16 years old, and the management was retained in the hands of his father, Keshari Sinh.

Maha Rawal Vairi Sal after reigning for 27 years died in the year 1891, and was succeeded by the young prince Shali Vahan, the present Chief of Jaisalmer. He is still a minor and the government is carried on by a Council of Regency under the supervision of a British officer.

The Maha Rawal of Jaisalmer enjoys full civil and criminal powers and is entitled to a salute of 15 guns.



Genealogical tree.

Devraj, Mudhji, Wachuji, Dusaji, Bijaya Raj, Buj Deo, Jaisal, Salvahan, Bijal, Kalyan Singh, Chachik Deo I., Karan, Lakhudh Sen, Jetsi, Mulraj, Garsi, Kehar, Kai Mal, Chachik Deo II; Bersi, Jait, Nunkaran, Bhim, Manohar Das, Sabal Singh, Amar Singh, Jaswant Singh, Akhe Singh, and

Mulraj.

Gaj Singh.

Ranjit Singh. (adopted.)

Vairi Sal („)

Shaliwahan.

(The present Maharaja.)

Residence.—Jaisalmer, Western States Agency; Rajputana.

JHALAWAD.

(457)

JHALAWAD.

(JHALRA PATAN.)

Area.—2,694 sq. miles. Population.—343,310.

Revenue.—15,00,000 rupees.

The State of Jhalawad is bounded on the north by the territories of Kotah; on the south and east by the Raigarh and the Gwalior dominions; while portions of it lie interspersed with the Kotah territories.

While narrating the annals of Kotah we have mentioned that the mutual dissensions between the Maha Rao and the descendants of Rana Jalam Singh were brought to a satisfactory termination in 1838 by detaching the principality of Jhalawad from its Parent State, and assigning it to Madan Singh II, the grandson of Jalam Singh. It was from that date that Jhalawad became independent of Kotah, and the descendants of Madan Singh are still the rulers of the newly formed territory. The brave and chivalrous Jalam Singh has already been introduced to our readers while narrating the account of Kotah. Madan Singh II. and Madhu Singh II. were respectively the son and grand-son of that illustrious personage. Of these Madan Singh was the founder of the Jhalawad State. An attempt to give a short sketch of the family-history of this branch would not be deemed out of place here.

Vehiyas was the reigning monarch of Kirantigarh near Nagar Parkar on the borders of Sindh and Kutch. He had inherited those domains from his ancestors who were known by the name of Makwanas. During the last moments of his life the soul of Vehiyas struggled hard to be disembodied. Many were the vows taken by his sons and relations, and many were the *Vratas* (fasts and observances) promised, but nothing could avail the dying Chief. At last his son, Kesar, asked him "How is it, father! that your soul leaves not your body with ease? Disburden your heart to me; and I am not your son, if I do not faithfully carry out your last behest." Vehiyas replied "Hearken Oh son! Samaiyu is the city where my deadly enemy, Hamir Sumra, reigns. If a hundred and twenty-five horses are promised to be brought per force from his stables, and distributed among the *bhats* on the thirteenth day after my death, then would my soul depart in peace." His brothers and nephews were all standing round his death-bed; but none had the courage to give any response. At last though of tender age, Kesar came forward, and placing

water in his father's hand, vowed dire revenge on Hamir. When this was done, the soul of Vehiyas departed in peace. On the approach of the thirteenth day, Kesar put aside the mourning vestments, donned his turban and summoned his relations to accompany him in his expedition against Samaiyu. None of them, however, responded to his call. Some even taunted him by saying that none would join him in his boyish pranks, and meet death in the face. Kesar was not a man to be in the least dispirited. He relied on his own strength. His hands were so long as to reach his knees; he carried in his hand a lance that weighed a *maund* and a quarter; he never stirred out without his bow at his side, and his horse was as swift as the eagle of Vishnu. He proceeded to Samaiyu and returned to his country bringing with him a hundred and twenty-five horses, which he distributed among the *bhats* on the thirteenth day. Thus did Kesar redeem the solemn pledge made to his departing father. After this exploit, he sent for the royal astrologers and asked them about the duration of his own life. They consulted the horoscope of the Chief, and declared that his life was short. Kesar thereupon thought that death in a corner of the house would bring discredit and disgrace, not upon himself alone but his whole family, while death on a field of battle would ensure him everlasting renown. He, therefore, again led an expedition against Samaiyu, carried off seven hundred camels, that were pasturing on the Meena, and distributed them among the *bhats* of Kirantigarh. But the temper of Hamir was not at all ruffled at such indignities, and no army was sent to avenge them. When Kesar saw that Hamir looked down upon such wrongs with an air of supreme indifference and contempt (in the spirit that discretion is the better part of valour and a slap but brushes away the dust) he for the third time made an inroad upon Samaiyu. The day on which he reached the city happened to be the *Daserah* Holiday. The fair wives and the beauteous daughters of Hamir attended by hundreds of maids had repaired to a neighbouring garden to enjoy the festive occasion. Kesar forced his way thither and bore them off with a hundred and twenty-five other Sumari females. Then was Hamir aroused and forthwith did he send his minister to Kirantigarh for reparation. He told Kesar that the females he had taken away were the wives and daughters of Hamir, they should, therefore, be sent back with all the customary presents in money and clothes as is done in the case of daughters when sent by their parents

to their husbands' home. At this Kesar with a contemptuous sneer replied that they had already become his property by right of conquest and that they could not be returned. Bearing this haughty reply, the minister returned to Samaiyu, Kesar thereafter summoned his relations in Kirantigarh and to each of them he gave one Sumari female, reserving four to himself. This led to a war between Hamir Sumara and Kesar Makwana. It lasted for over twelve years without any decisive result. At last one way or the other both factions agreed to put a stop to all further hostilities. During this period Kesar and his kinsmen begot eighteen sons by their Sumari females. He again desired to renew the war and sent to Hamir a message to that effect. Upto this time it always happened that Hamir never showed either readiness or willingness whenever he received a challenge to fight against Kesar, but this time to the surprise of all, he replied that he was but too willing to accept his challenge, but he feared that his army would perish for want of provisions as the soil of Kirantigarh yielded nothing but salt. Kesar indignantly informed him that one thousand *bighas* would be sowed with wheat to provide food for his army if he would agree to take up arms against him. Hamir marched with a large army against Kirantigarh and the contest was renewed. Many Rajputs lost their lives and the country suffered in several ways. A decisive battle was at last fought, in which Kesar who had thus courted certain destruction, was with all his sons slain. His brothers and nephews, too, fell on the field. Hamir reduced Kirantigarh to ashes. The Sumari Rajputanis, however, for whom all this blood was spilt mounted the funeral pyre of their lords and followed their alien husbands to the next world. Like the Sabine maids of old, the Sumaris were faithful to their adopted husbands even in death.

Thus were Kirantigarh and the whole family of Kesar Makwana destroyed. Harpal, one of his sons, alone escaped the general slaughter. He roamed about the courts of different princes, seeking shelter, but none espoused his cause. As a last resort, he proceeded to Anhilwad Patan. Raja Karan, who was the son of his maternal aunt, was then reigning over Gujarat. His queen was annoyed by a terrible demon, familiarly known by the name of *Babrobhoot*, which Harpal exorcised by means of magical charms and spells. This service Karan rewarded by a grant of 2,300 villages; (of these, 500 were afterwards returned) with these he set himself up as an independent Chief at Patdi. Harpal had married the

goddess Shakti and by her he had three sons, Sodho, Mango and Sekhro, and one daughter, Umadevi. Once upon a time, as the bards relate, the four children were playing in the court-yard of the palace when a mad elephant began to run amuck all about the place. The ugly beast was on the point of seizing these tiny children with its huge proboscis, when the goddess Shakti, seated at a window, extended her hand and took them up. The descendants of the three princes came to be thenceforth known as Jhalas (caught) instead of Makwanas.

Harpal died in 1130, and was succeeded by Sodhaji. For sixteen generations, Patdi continued to be the principal seat of their government. Shatru Sal, the sixteenth ruler in the family, removed his court from Patdi to Mandal. His son, Jet Sinh, set up his court at Kuva. Four successive rulers occupied the *gadi* at Kuva, the last of whom was Vagoji, who was slain while fighting with the Mahomedans. His son, Rajodharji, removed his capital to Halvad in 1488.

On the Halvad *gadi*, after Rajodharji, successively sat Ravoji, Man Sinh, Raya Sinh and Chandra Sinh. Prithuraj, the eldest son of Chandra Sinh, had left Halvad during his father's life-time. He had two sons, Sultanji and Rajoji. Upon the death of Chandra Sinh in 1628 Sultanji was entitled to the succession, but he was superseded by his uncle, Ashkaran.

Thus deprived of the throne, Sultanji obtained possession of Vankaner (in Kathiawad) and became the founder of that principality. Rajoji seized upon Wadhwan and founded an independent chiefdom there.

Bhav Sinh, the third son of Rajoji, the founder of Wadhwan, left his father's court in search of better fortune. He at first proceeded to his maternal home at Idar and then to Savar in Malwa, where he married the daughter of the reigning Thakore. His son, Madhu Sinh, turned out a gallant soldier of fortune. His aunt, the Rani, feared that he would one day dethrone her own son and make his way to the *gadi*. She remonstrated with her husband to turn him out, but he remained firm. When Madhu Sinh learnt this, he quitted Savar and repaired first to Bundi and then to Kotah.

At Bundi, Madhu Sinh attained great celebrity and rose to the position of the commander-in-chief of the forces. In 1682, he received in *jagir* the village of Nanta. He took under his care and protection the minor prince, Bhav Sinh, the grandson and successor to Rao Raja Chhatra Sal

when the latter met with death on the field of battle. He held for some time the helm of the State-barge, but later on he lost the confidence of the queen-mother. She grew apprehensive lest Madhu Sinh might one day turn a traitor, and assassinating the infant prince, usurp the throne. She incited the Arab and the Sindhi mercenaries to beleaguer his palace. Madhu Sinh, though he drove back the tumultuous assailants, did not think it safe to remain there any longer. He at once left Bundi and went to Kotah. Maha Rao Bhim Sinh of Kotah came out with his State officials to accord a fitting welcome to so eminent a personage, provided him with a high and influential place in the State and added greatly to his reputation. In Kotah Madhu Sinh acquired as much renown as at Bundi. Maha Rao Bhim Sinh accepted for his son, Arjun Sinh, the hand of his sister and there by chained him to the throne by closer ties of relationship. Not only was he entrusted with the sole command of the Royal forces, but was in addition raised to the position of the Mayor of the Palace. The leading vassals of the State, while addressing him, had to add to his name the distinguished appellation of '*Mama saheb*,' which has ever since been connected with the office of the *Foujdars* of Kotah.

His son, Madan Sinh, and grand son, Himat Sinh, enjoyed the hereditary office of *Foujdar*. In the time of Himat Sinh, Kotah was frequently infested by bands of Maratha free-booters and Jaipur mercenaries. For the protection of the country he arranged with the Marathas to pay them a small allowance. By these negotiations, Nahargarh was added to Kotah. He died in 1760-61 and was succeeded in office by the celebrated Jalam Sinh, the son of his brother Prathvi Sinh.

Jalam Sinh is a name of no less celebrity and renown than those of his immediate ancestors. A short account of this eminent soldier has already been given in our annals of Kotah; we here take up the thread and carry it to the end. He was only 21 years old when he received the command of the Kotah garrison. In that very year *i. e.* in 1761, Raja Madhu Sinh of Jaipur invaded Bundi and Kotah at the head of a large army. The Maratha arms had received on the memorable field of Panipat a terrible blow, which had laid them low and Madhu Sinh had, therefore, nothing to fear from them. The Bundi and the Kotah troops, however, prepared to give battle to the invaders. The Jaipur troops crossed the Chambal and entered the Kotah territories. They were opposed by the army of the Rao of Kotah, consisting of 5,000 Hads only. On

the field of Butwarro, the Hadas fought with singular gallantry against the assailants. In the beginning the Hadas dispersed the invaders in a few successive charges. Jalam Sinh personally alighted from his charger, and fought on foot with conspicuous bravery, but at last he perceived that the odds were fearfully against him, and that his army was too small to cope with the enemy any longer. The hordes of greedy Marathas under Malhar Rao Holkar were lying encamped in the vicinity after their disastrous retreat from the fatal field of Panipat. Both sides implored his help, but so crest fallen was he that he refused to join either of them. Jalam Sinh, when he saw that no aid was to be expected from that quarter, at once galloped to him and held out to him the irresistible temptation of a rich booty from the Jaipur camp. A false alarm of surprise on their camp threw the Jaipuris off their guard and a general flight of the soldiers followed.

Shortly after the battle of Butwarro Rao Chhatra Sal of Kotah died in 1763. He was succeeded by his brother, Guman Sinh. The new Rao and Jalam Sinh did not pull on well together, and Jalam was removed from his office. He then repaired to the court of Rana Arsi of Mewad. The victory of Butwarro had spread the fame of Jalam Sinh far and wide throughout Rajasthan, and it secured for him a hearty reception at the Rana's court. The Rana was, at this time, held in thralldom by the powerful chieftain of Dailwara. He desired Jalam Sinh, to free him from the shackles of that ambitious Sardar. In open day light Jalam killed the chieftain and released the Rana from his tutelage. This enhanced his reputation at the court of Mewad. The title of 'Raj Rana' and the estate of Cheeturkheda were conferred on him which raised him to the position of a Sardar of the second rank at the court of Udaipur. His enemies now invaded Mewad with the aid of the Maratha hordes, but they were dispersed by him. The assailants being sufficiently re-inforced soon rallied together, and made a desperate charge on the Mewadis. In this engagement several Mewad chieftains of note were slain, while Jalam Sinh, receiving a bad wound, was taken prisoner.

Jalam Sinh fell into the hands of Trimbak Rao, the father of the celebrated Ambaji Inglija; while in prison he formed friendship with him, and through his influence was released. Instead of returning to Mewad, he went to Kotah in company with his friend, Pandit Lalaji Ballal. Rao Guman had neither forgiven nor forgotten his former faults as he took

them to be, but his majestic appearance and graceful address so completely won over the Rao, that Jalam was once more restored to his old position. At that time the Marathas had besieged the fort of Bakainnee on the southern frontier of Kotah. Four hundred Hadas under Madhu Sinh, the son of Jalam, offered them a strong resistance, and drove them back with great loss. The Marathas then endeavoured to force open the gate with the trunk of a huge elephant, but Madhu Sinh with a dagger in his hand leapt from one of the battlements on the back of the animal, stabbed the driver, killed the elephant and wounded several of the enemy. This intrepidity on the part of their leader kindled enthusiasm among the Hadas, who threw open the gate and began to ply their swords freely. No less than 1,300 Marathas in their turn fell victims to the Hadas' wrath, who, however, perished to a man.

In 1775, Rao Guman Sinh was taken dangerously ill. When he found that there was but little hope of recovery he placed his son, Umed Sinh, then a boy aged 10 years, in the lap of Jalam, and entrusted him to his care. On the death of the Rao, the prince was enthroned, though the sole management remained in the hands of Jalam Sinh. In the beginning of his career he was not placed at the head of all the departments in the State, but had only the power and control over the Militia. The Diwani or the civil affairs of the State were carried on by one, Rao Akherai. The latter, however, had expired a few days previous to the demise of Rao Guman Sinh, and by the time that Umed Sinh was formally installed on the *gadi* Jalam had become the *ne plus ultra* at the court of Kotah. He was in fact the uncrowned king of Kotah, the infant Rao being a mere puppet in his hands, formally wearing the diadem.

No sooner had Jalam Sinh assumed the reins of government in his hands then was a strong party formed to thwart all his well conceived measures. It consisted of the Bankrot Chief, Maharaja Sarup Sinh and Jaskaran. The conspiracy was, however, hardly planned before it was put down. Jaskaran was the foster brother of the Rao and his guardian, and as such was a man of great influence and position at the court. He conspired to take the life of his ward, the infant Rao, for which he was banished. Upon his expulsion from Kotah, he went to Jaipur and the Bankrot Chief and Sarup Sinh followed him thither. The rest of their partisans, being afraid of incurring Jalam Sinh's displeasure, also left Kotah. They all took shelter at the courts of Jaipur, Marwar, and other neighbouring States:

but on Jalam's issuing proclamations for their apprehension, describing them as rebels and traitors, they were turned out from those States. Thus some of the fugitives died abroad, while others threw themselves on his mercy. Though he liberally pardoned them, yet were they all branded as rebels. He restored to them only a part of their estates which were sequestered. Thus was a formidable opposition nipped in the very bud.

The next combination against Jalam Sinh was headed by Devi Sinh of Athoon, who held in appanage an estate yielding sixty thousand rupees a year. He strongly fortified his castle and gained over to his side those who were hostile to Jalam. The Regent attacked the stronghold, defeated the defenders, and confiscated their estates. Devi Sinh fled away and died an exile. His son, however, prayed for mercy, which Jalam Sinh readily accorded. He was given permission to return to Kotah and was granted the estate of Bamolia worth fifteen thousand rupees a year. The rest of the rebels were forgiven, but they were divested of all their power. Next they attempted to poison the brave and faithful Jalam, but there, too, they failed. At last in 1800, Bahadur Sinh, the chief of Moharsan, actively engaged himself in a plot, which was joined by almost all the malcontents, whose power was curtailed or annihilated by the Regent. Their plan was to assassinate Jalam Sinh on his way to the Darbar. It was divulged to him in time when he had actually set out for the palace. Nothing daunted, he continued to walk further on, attended by his friends' private *paiga* (the select troop of horse) in addition to his own bodyguards. The conspirators, who were lying in wait for him, were suddenly assailed by his guards. They were completely routed. Many of them were slain, some were taken prisoners and the rest fled for their lives. The ring leader of these rebels, Bahadur Sinh, effecting his escape, took refuge in the temple of the tutelary deity of the Hadas. Jalam Sinh got him dragged out of the sanctuary and had his head cut off. Thus not less than eighteen plots were laid against his life which were all baffled by his vigilance and fore-sight. The most conspicuous of all the attempts against his life was one got up by the Rajputanis within the very precincts of the palace. He was once sent for by the Queen-mother and when he went to the palace in response to the call and was waiting in the antechamber, a band of Amazonian Rajputanis, armed with daggers, rushed upon him. There was no hope of escape. They seemed determined to put him on his metal and then take his life. Jalam Sinh was first overwhelmed with a series of questions, taunts

and rebukes, when the chief attendant of the Dowager-queen, a woman of masculine courage, rushed in between the bewildered Jalam and the foremost of his fair but fierce assailants. A tender passion for the handsome features of Jalam Sinh lurked within her breast. She hit upon a novel plan to effect his deliverance ; she pushed him out of the palace amid a torrent of abuses.

Umed Sinh, the Rao of Kotah, was no doubt kept under strict surveillance by the Protector, yet he never failed to treat him with all the respect and consideration due to his dignified rank. Jalam Sinh, if he ever aspired to be the king of Kotah, could surely have effected his object without any very great difficulty. He was, however, upright, loyal and devoted to his master, and was not a man likely to be tempted by such an inducement. Rao Umed Sinh died in 1820 and was succeeded by his son, Kishor Sinh. Jalam Sinh was for sixty years at the head of the administration at Kotah. The whole of this period was characterised by constant upheaval and unrest throughout the Rajasthan. All the native States were overrun by the Marathas, Pindaras and other free-booters. To this Kotah formed an exception, for by the mere awe inspired by Jalam's name these enemies to peace and order could find no entrance within its gates. They on the contrary sought his shelter and often asked his advice. In 1817 the British Government guaranteed in perpetuity the administration of affairs to his decendants and successors.

The life of this celebrated Nestor of Rajwarra was brought to its close in 1824 at the patriarchal age of 84. After his death Madhu Sinh, the son and Madan Sinh II. the grandson, administered the affairs of Kotah in succession. This Madan Sinh was the founder of the State of Jhalawad.

After the death of Rao Umed Sinh in 1820 Jalam Sinh placed Kishor Sinh on the throne of Kotah. On his death in 1828 he was succeeded by Rao Ram Sinh. He did not pull on well with Madan Sinh. He could find no way to remove him from the Diwanship, which was pledged to him and his successors from generation to generation by the British Government. In 1834 matters took a serious turn and the relations between the Rao and his premier were strained to their highest pitch. Complaints were carried to the British Government, who were compelled to interfere and bring the matter to a satisfactory termination. Ultimately in

1838 with the consent of Rao Ram Sinh, the two supplementary articles which were agreed upon in 1817 were cancelled, and with them the permanent right of the heirs of Jalam Sinh to the administration of Kotah was extinguished for ever. To compensate them for this loss, 17 *parganas* yielding an annual income of twelve *lakhs* of rupees, were set apart for Madan Sinh and his heirs. These districts form an independent principality, which is known by the name of Jhalawad and which is still enjoyed by the descendants of Madan Sinh. In 1838 an amended treaty to the above effect was concluded between the Rao and his Minister. At that time a new stipulation with respect to the tributes of Kotah and Jhalawad was also introduced. A diminution of 80 thousand rupees was made in the tribute to be paid to the British Government by the State of Kotah and that sum was now levied from Jhalawad. Though Raj Rana Madan Sinh was the first sovereign of this newly detached principality, yet it must be admitted, to the everlasting credit of Jalam, that the establishment of this new chiefdom was due mainly and principally to the tact, judgment and sagacity of that celebrated chieftain. Madan Sinh II. died in 1845. He was succeeded by his son, Prithvi Sinh. During his reign the most notable event was the breaking out of that great national upheaval known by the name of the Indian Mutiny in 1857. At that critical juncture, the British Government stood sorely in need of the loyalty and devotion of the native princes. The Raj Rana Prithvi Sinh took the English ladies and children under his protection and escorted them safely to Delhi. In 1864 he received a *sanad*, from the British Government, permitting him, if necessary to adopt an heir to the throne without the payment of any *Nazzar* to the Paramount Power.

On the 29th of August 1875 Maharaj Rana Prithvi Sinh breathed his last. As he died without issue, a distant relative, Vakhat Sinh, was duly adopted who under the family name of Jalam Sinh was installed on the *gadi*. He is the present Raj Rana of Jhalawad. He was present at the Imperial Assemblage held at Delhi, on 1st January 1877. Owing to internal mismanagement Raj Rana Jalam Sinh was deposed in February 1896, and the State affairs have even since been conducted by an officer appointed by the British Government. The Chief has taken up his residence at Benares, where he is assigned an annual pension of 100,000 rupees.

The Raj Rana of Jhalawad enjoys full civil and criminal powers over his subjects and is entitled to a salute of 15 guns.



Genealogical tree.

Madan Sinh II.

|
Prithvi Sinh.

|
Jalam Sinh (adopted ; deposed.) .

(The Present Raj Rana.)

Residence:—Jhalra Patan, Jhalawad Agency ; Rajputana.

KHAIRPUR.

Area.—6,109 sq. miles. Population.—131,957.

Revenue.—7,29,000 rupees.

The territory of Khairpur is bounded on the north and north-west by the Shikarpur Zillah, on the south by Thar and Parkar; on the east by the Native State of Jaisalmer and on the west by the Haidarabad Zillah of the Bombay Presidency.

The rulers of Khairpur are Beluchi Mussalmans and are said to have descended from the Talpur stock. The left portion of the territory was conquered by Mir Fattah Ali Khan in 1783, from the last descendants of Kalhora, and was incorporated with Sindh. At that time (1783) the whole province of Sindh was under the sway of Mir Fattah Ali Khan Talpur. His nephew Mir Sorab Khan Talpur assisted by his two sons, Mir Rustam and Ali Murad, founded the chieftom of Khairpur. In the beginning Mir Sorab Khan was the lord of Khairpur and the neighbouring districts only, but subsequently he, by the prowess of his sword, extended his dominions as far as Sabzalkot and Kashmir in the north, the Desert of Jaisalmer in the east and Kachchh Gangava in the west. In 1811 Mir Sorab during his life-time, entrusted the reins of government to his son Mir Rustam. After a time a contest arose between Mir Rustam and Ali Murad and in that family-feud one of the parties sought the assistance of the English.

When disturbances broke out in Kabul in 1813 the Mirs stopped the payment of tribute to the Supreme Government. The province of Sindh was then ruled over by Mussalman chiefs, styled the Amirs. Khairpur was the seat of government of these Amirs in the north, while Haidarabad was their capital in the south. These Amirs entered into a treaty with the British Government in 1839. The stipulations of that treaty were that the Amirs should pay to the English an annual tribute of three *laks* of rupees and in return the English should post a contingent of 5,000 British troops at Thana, or any other suitable place in Sindh. The Amirs were bound to assist the English with a detachment of 3,000 troops in case of emergency. They also agreed to consult the wishes of the English Government before carrying on any communication with the Native States of India. The British Resident

was to be the arbitrator of any civil feuds that might arise among themselves. Finally the cargoes laden in ships passing through the Indus were to be exempted from all imports save a small customs duty levied at their port of destination.

The Amirs were found somewhat slack in the observance of these stipulations in all their details and the Governor-General expressed his regret at some petty infringements. The Amirs with a view to free themselves from the shackles of this treaty wrote letters to Maharaja Sher Singh, the Sikh ruler of the Punjab, asking for his support. The English Government at once detected signs of discontent among the Amirs who were suspected of secretly making preparations for war. In the month of August 1842 the Governor-General dispatched that illustrious general Sir Charles Napier to Sindh to thwart their ill-conceived measures. In addition to his appointment as the generalissimo of British troops, he was placed at the head of civil government also. He was in the commencement of his career very amiable and friendly in his intercourse with the Amirs, but as time advanced he explained to them the advisability of avoiding all disputes with the English by the cession of Karanchi, Sakkar, Shikarpur, and other out-posts for stationing their troops. He eventually received from the India Government a draft of fresh stipulations to be entered into with the Amirs who were pressed to sign it. The terms of the new treaty embodied the surrender to the English of Salyalpur and other districts which were to be given over to the Nawab of Bahawalpur in recognition of the valuable support rendered by him to the English during the recent wars. The Amirs agreed no longer to harass merchants carrying on their trade in the Indus, for which they were exempted from the payment of annual tribute to the Paramount Power. Sir Charles threatened them that if they failed to affix their signatures to the new treaty he would lose no time in seizing on behalf of the English Government the whole province. He began to make necessary preparations for the approaching struggle. The Amirs, too, were not slow in raising their troops. The English army to strike terror into the hearts of the Amirs razed to the ground and plundered one of their forts called Imamgarh. Major Outram was soon after appointed Commissioner and despatched to Haidarabad to ascertain if the Amirs were willing to abide by the proposed stipulations. A single word from the gallant Major was quite sufficient to prevail upon them to sign the treaty, but the Beluchi

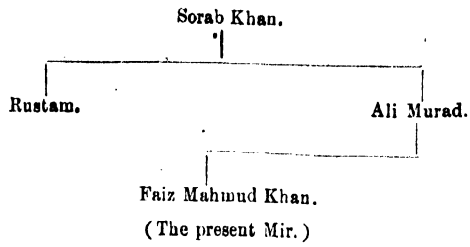
chiefs took a solemn pledge by their sacred Koran to completely annihilate the English Army. The very next day they made a sudden onslaught on the small detachment under Major Outram, but that brave officer withstood their attack for several hours when at last he took refuge in a British ship lying at anchor in the river. Two days after, the English Army under Sir Charles Napier came up to the scene of action. A fierce battle was fought near Miani between the English and the Amirs, in which the army of the latter was completely routed. The three Amirs of Khairpur, Rustam Khan, Nasir Khan and Vali Mahmud, with three more from Haidarabad, Nasir Khan, Shahadat Khan and Hussain Khan, surrendered themselves to the British General. The British Government first kept them in the fort of Sasavada and thence carried them to Calcutta.

In subsequent battles too, the Amirs were invariably defeated and the whole province of Sindh fell into the hands of the English. The India Government allowed Amir Mir Ali Murad of Khairpur to retain possession of his small territory for his allegiance to the British Crown. The Amir submitted a document to the Governor-General relating to certain districts which the relations of Ali Murad had promised to bequeath to him, and the Government delivered over to him those dominions also. This document was afterwards proved to be a forgery and the English Government deprived the Mir of all the districts held under it. The Mir of Khairpur now holds only so much of the territory as was in his possession before the breaking out of the Amirs' war. Mir Ali Murad Khan Talpur visited Bombay in November 1875 to do homage to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, the Heir Apparent to the British Throne. He also repaired to Delhi to be present at the Imperial Assemblage held by H.E. Lord Lytton on the 1st day of January 1877. Mir Ali Murad Khan died in 1895, and was succeeded by his son Faiz Mahmud Khan, who is the present Amir of Khairpur.

The Amir of Khairpur enjoys full civil, and criminal powers over his subjects and is entitled to a salute of 15 guns.



Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Khairpur, Sindh; Bombay Presidency.

PRATAPGARH.

Area.—1,215 sq. miles. Population.—87,975.

Revenue.—262,400 rupees.

The State of Pratapgarh is bounded on the north and north-west by Udaipur ; on the east by Mundusar, Jaora, and Ratlam ; and on the south-east by Banswara.

The rulers of Pratapgarh have descended from the celebrated stock of the Ranas of Mewad, and are Sisodiya Rajputs of the Solar race. This chiefdom was founded by Bikaji. After his death, the *gadi* of Partapgarh was successively occupied by Tej Sinh, Sendhoji, Jaswant Sinh, Hari Sinh, Pratap Sinh, Prithi Sinh, and Gopal Sinh. They enjoyed high and influential offices at the Imperial Court of Delhi. Salam Sinh, who succeeded Gopal Sinh was such a great favourite with Emperor Mahmud Shah, who reigned from 1719 to 1748, that he accorded him permission to strike coins in his own name. Accordingly a mint was opened in Pratapgarh, where coins began to be struck which were named after him *Salamshahi*. They are still current in Pratapgarh and the neighbouring places in Malwa. Each *Salamshahi* coin is worth twelve annas and 9 pies of the British coin, i. e. 5 *Salamshahi* coins are equivalent to 4 British rupees.

While the heart of the moribund Mughal Empire was gradually sinking, Salam Sinh expired at Pratapgarh, and was succeeded by his son Sawant Sinh. During his reign the Marathas repeatedly invaded his territories. They laid waste a great portion of his realms, and oppressed the poor ryots, compelling the Raja to acknowledge the supremacy of Holkar, and pay him tribute as a mark of submission. The Maratha hosts visited the province every year to collect the tribute agreed upon, and plundered the neighbouring villages as long as it remained unpaid. To free himself from the grip of these free-booters, he in 1804, solicited the protection of the British Crown. The yearly tribute which he paid to Holkar was now transferred to his new guardians. Lord Cornwallis, the then Governor-General of India, was strongly opposed to the policy of espousing the cause of one native prince against the other, and the stipulations recently entered into with the Chief of Pratapgarh were cancelled. The Marathas chastised the vacillating Raja, by constantly attacking his dominions, and rendering them desolate for fourteen long years. In 1818, a fresh agreement was made between the English and the Chief of Pratapgarh, by

which the latter swore fealty to the British *Raj*, then growing paramount in India, and an annual sum of 56,887 rupees was agreed to be paid to the Supreme Authority. Sawant Sinh during his life entrusted the management of the state affairs to his son Dip Sinh. The Regent prince made his way clear by slaying all his opponents in the State. This policy of systematic oppression and cruelty commenced from 1823, and a dispute arose between the father and the son, which reached the ears of the British authorities. The Supreme Government, in 1826, advised Raja Sawant Sinh to banish his son beyond the limits of the Pratapgarh territory. Dip Sinh was accordingly turned out, and kept a prisoner in the fort of Deolah. He however made his escape and returning to Pratapgarh, resumed to tyrannise over the inoffensive ryot. The British Government got him arrested, and kept him as a state prisoner within the walls of the fort of Kernora, under the strict watch of English sentinels. There he died a captive on 21st May, 1826. While he was in prison the paternal affection of the aged father had succeeded in obliterating all the faults and frailties of the erring son, and Sawant Sinh had applied to the British Government for the release of Dip Sinh from confinement. This request had been acceded to, and orders had already been issued for his liberation, but before they could be carried out death removed him from this mortal world.

Sawant Sinh had, by this time, grown old and infirm, and was not able to preserve order within his territories. The Bhils and other predatory bands infested the whole province and plundered small villages. They were, however, put down with the help of the English Contingent. Pratapgarh began to prosper under the protection of the all-powerful English arms.

Sawant Sinh's grand-son Dalpat Sinh was appointed heir to the throne of Dungarpur, where he was escorted in the year 1825. Sawant Sinh, however, dying in 1844, Dalpat Sinh returned from Dungarpur and took possession of his hereditary throne at Pratapgarh. This prince was adopted to succeed to the *gadi* of Dungarpur. The history of Dalpat Sinh has been narrated in the annals of Dungarpur.

Dalpat Sinh dying in 1864, Udaya Sinh mounted the throne; and after his death, in 1890, the throne has been occupied by the present Chief, Maha Rawat Raghunath Sinh.

The Maha Rawat of Pratapgarh has been granted the right of adoption and is entitled to a salute of 15 guns.



Genealogical tree.

Bikaji, Tej Sinh, Sendhoji, Jaswant Sinh, Hari Sinh, Pratap Sinh, Prithi Sinh, Gopal Sinh, Salam Sinh and.—

Sawant Sinh.

Dip Sinh.

Dalpat Sinh.

Udaya Sinh.

Raghunath Sinh.

(The Present Maha Rawat.)

Residence.—Pratapgarh, Mewad Agency ; Rajputana.

SIROHI.

Area.—3,020 sq. miles. Population.—186,810.

Revenue.—2,25,000 rupees.

Sirohi is bounded on the north-east by Iranpura, on the east by Mewad; on the south by Pulanpur and Dānta; and on the west and north-west by Marwad.

The rulers of Sirohi are Rajputs of the Chauhan race. Chand, the bard laureate to Prithuraj. Chauhan, the last of the Rajput sovereigns of Delhi, has stated that when Mount Abu was the abode of the Rishis, and when they were molested by the demons in the performance of their religious rites, Vasishtha Muni produced from *Agni kund** (a sacrificial pond) four persons, representing the four chief tribes of warlike Kshatriyas, the Padihar, the Solanki, the Parmar and the Chauhan. These principal tribes were afterwards subdivided into thirty six branches. The representative of the Chauhan race was called Anhal. His son, Ajc Pal, founded Ajmere, and made it his seat of government. Abu and its neighbouring country remained under the sway of the descendants of the Parmar hero. The descendants of the Chauhan still occupy the territory of Sirohi, where their founder was first begotten by the sage on Mount Abu. That is the only record extant of the founder of the race. We learn from the pages of *Rasmala* that on Mount Abu itself the Parmars held supremacy for several generations. Their capital was Chandravati, a city twelve miles from the foot of the mountain. The ruins of that once magnificent city are still to be found buried in a dense and desolate *jungle*. The magnificent wells, ponds and the dilapidated remains of ancient temples and ruins of other buildings, clearly indicate that in days gone by, there must have stood on that site an extensive city of very great beauty and excellence. The names of Shri DhumRaj, Dhundhak, Dhruva and Bhatta are handed down to us as the first principal sovereigns of the Parmar family. They were exceedingly powerful, who by the prowess of their swords vanquished all their enemies. They were succeeded by Ram Deo and Yashodhaval. The latter had two sons, Dharavarsh and Pralhadan Deo. Dharavarsh had a son, named Shri Som Sinh Deo. Contemporaneous with Bhim Deo II., the Solanki king of Anhilwad Patan, there reigned at Chandravati, in 1231, Shri Som Sinh Deo Mahamandleshwar. During his reign he allowed the

* *Agni Kund* is about 900 feet in length and 240 feet in breadth.

Chauhans of Nandol, a free passage through his dominions. One of them, Luning by name, while passing through Chandravati, slew the Parmar king and took possession of Abu. Luning was succeeded by Tej Sinh, who, in his turn, was succeeded by Kanhar Deo. The fact that the last named sovereign was reigning at Mount Abu in 1338 appears from an inscription in the temple of Vasishta Muni. From an account of the Rajputs of the Devda branch of the Chauhan race, it appears that Rao Lumbha conquered Abu and Chandravati; that a battle was fought near Bareli in which the Parmar sovereign was defeated by his foe, the Chauhan, and the allegiance of the people was transferred to the conqueror.* On this authority the year 1303 may be assigned as the probable date of this struggle. Seven years before Chandravati had thus fallen into the hands of the Chauhans, they had already obtained possession of Mount Abu. The Chauhans thenceforth destroyed one after another all the Parmar chieftains; and as their arms were crowned with success on all sides, other branches of their family migrated and settled in their newly acquired territories.

Of the next two hundred years nothing is known except that the Rao's subjects and vassals maintained their independence of any other foreign power. The chiefs of Marwad repeatedly attacked their possessions, but the natural defences of the country formed by surrounding mountains and wildernesses, coupled with the inherent heroism of their valiant defenders, baffled their attempts for a long time. Sirohi was the maternal home of Raja Mal Deo of Marwad, who reigned with marked ability at Jodhpur from 1532 to 1569. He invaded Sirohi at the head of a large army and carried on a struggle which, though eventually successful, cost him the lives of many a brave Rajput. Leaving a garrison there, Mal Deo returned home, but no sooner had he turned his back than the Chauhan aristocracy, with the Bhils and Meenas, rose against the Marwadi officer, slew him and once more secured their independence.

In 1572, an Imperial army under the command of Mir Mahmud Khan marched against Sirohi. Rao Surtan Sinh sent an envoy to the royal camp, with a request that he was prepared to surrender. The envoy

* It appears that at first the Chauhans conquered the country from the Parmar, who reconquered it. Afterwards Rao Lumbha again conquered it from the Parmar family and it still continues in the Chauhan line.

was not one of the *corps diplomatique* of our day, but was a true and valiant hero and a gallant Rajput. While engaged in an audience with the Mussalman general he drew out his dagger and plunged it in Mir Mahmud's breast. The very next moment the corpse of the *Vakil* was seen rolling in his own blood. When the sad intelligence of the Mir being wounded reached Delhi, Akbar sent an other officer, Mir Lashkar Khan, to inquire after his general's health. It was after fifteen days that Mir Mahmud Khan was able to leave his bed, and Akbar came down in person to Sirohi to relieve that officer and assume command of the army. At that juncture 80 Rajputs from the temple and 70 from the palace put on saffron robes and like furious lions rushed head-long on the Mughal army, destroying every thing that came within their reach; but in the desperate sally they perished to a man. The Rao did not yet acknowledge the supremacy of the Mughal lord. Akbar left a garrison at Sirohi under Shadat Khan, to chastise the Bhil and Meena depredators, and restore order throughout the country. No sooner had he reached Ajmere than was the commander of the garrison forced to quit his post, and fly before the enraged subjects of the Rao.

Raja Sur Sinh of Marwad next invaded Sirohi at the head of a large army on behalf of the Emperor. He plundered the country without conquering it. The Rao then acknowledged verbally the supremacy of the Emperor. On the next occasion when the Rao raised his head against the Padshah, the latter entrusted the command of a large army to Kumpawat Mukund Das, a vassal of Marwad, and ordered him to march against Sirohi. As the numerical odds were fearfully against him, Rao Surtan Sinh shut himself up in the mountain retreats about his country. Once upon a time when the Rao was sleeping securely in one of these rocky caves at night, the Rathod chief came up to the spot and succeeded in tying him to his bed while asleep. The Chauhans, surrounding the person of their lord, were soon armed, and putting their hands on the hilts of their swords, they shewed their readiness to offer resistance to the Rathods, but they were informed by the intrepid Mukund Das that the life of their Rao was in his hands, and if they dared use their arms it would cost them the life of their liege-lord. At this threat they stopped. Mukund Das first took the Rao to Jodhpur and thence to Delhi. Before he was admitted to the Emperor's presence, the Rao was asked to observe the etiquette of the Court, but he briefly replied, that his life, and not his honour, was in the Emperor's hands;

he had never till then bowed his head before a human being and never would do so even at the peril of his life. To humble his pride, it was arranged to admit him by a low wicket that he might be obliged to stoop down before entering the State Chamber. He, however, defeated the plan by first putting in his legs and then his head. The Emperor was not at all enraged at the Rao's insolent behaviour, but on the contrary, was much pleased with his undaunted bravery. He offered to give him any place he might choose excepting Sirohi, but he replied, 'Is there any thing richer than Achalgarh (Abu and Sirohi) which lies in Your Majesty's power to bestow upon me ? Let me have my mountainous tract.' The Emperor permitted him to return to his mother-land. The Rao is said to have never bent his head to the Emperor, nor did he ever serve him at the Imperial Court. Rao Surtan Sinh was a valiant, but an arrogant prince. It is said of him that when the heat of the sun became too oppressive for him, he in rage hurled a javelin at the solar disc.

The hostilities between the Sirohi and Marwad princes grew more bitter day by day. Abhaya Sinh of Marwad made preparations to proceed to Gujarat in 1730 and determined to destroy the Sirohi State on his way thither. When this intention of Raja Abhaya Sinh came to the knowledge of the Rao, he, relying on the natural defences of his country, and the valour of the Bhils and the Meenas, made no preparations to offer him any opposition, but passed his days in lethargy and indifference. Meantime the Meenas drove away heads of cattle from Marwad. Abhaya Sinh, deeply incensed at the indignity thus offered to him, started from Jodhpur at the head of his troops. When he reached the Sirohi territory, the subjects of the Rao left their mountain abodes and fled to the neighbouring territories. The Rao was compelled to sue for peace by offering the hand of his daughter in marriage to the Maharaja of Marwad.

In the beginning of the present century Udayabhan was the Rao reigning at Sirohi. He oppressed his vassals and subjects, the Bhils and the Meenas, for the purpose of curtailing their long established privileges. Sturdy mountaineers and well-nigh independent settlers as they were, they could not put up with any such tyranny and restraint as the Rao proposed to put upon them. They rose against such systematic oppression, deposed the Rao and incarcerated him in a prison. They selected his brother, Shiv Sinh, to rule over them in his stead. Udayabhan sent a messenger

to Raja Man Sinh of Marwad, requesting him to run to his aid. The Rathod sent him a small contingent, which met with a formidable opposition from the nobles and mountaineers of Sirohi. The Rathods were killed in large numbers, as they were flying before the swords and the matchlocks of the nobility, and the showers of stones hurled by the wild mountaineers.

In 1817-18 the chiefs of Rajputana entered into an alliance, offensive and defensive, with the British Government and thus made themselves secure against the standing dread of the Maratha and Pindhari inroads. The Rao of Sirohi, secure in his mountain retreat, refused at that time to recognize the British Supremacy in India. Later on, when he perceived how very advantageous these alliances had proved to the neighbouring princes, he on the 11th December 1823, concluded a treaty with the British Government and took refuge under the protection of the British arms. The terms of the treaty were nearly the same as those offered to the other princes. The amount of annual tribute was fixed at one-eighth of the total revenue of the State ; it was also arranged that after the demise of Rao Shiv Sinh the succession to the *gadi* should devolve on the issue of the deposed Rao Udayabhan, if a son should ever be born to him.

Rao Udayabhan, however, died without issue in 1847, whereupon Rao Shiv Sinh was confirmed on the throne. Though he succeeded in successfully resisting the assaults of Raja Man Sinh of Marwad, the general prosperity of the country received a severe shock from those disturbances. The subject vassals again took to outlawry against the State for the preservation of their rights and privileges. They were supported by the well known free-booters, the Meenas and the Bhils. It was not an easy task to reduce them to submission. The help of a British contingent was soon called for to suppress these turbulent classes. To meet this extraordinary military expenditure, Rao Shiv Sinh borrowed from the British Government a sum of 150,000 rupees. The British Government placed the services of their troops at the disposal of the Rao. Fortunately there was no occasion to employ them as an amicable settlement with the discontented nobles was soon arrived at through the kindly intercession of the British Government. Those vassals who had revolted against the State after the deposal of Udayabhan, were required to maintain peace and good behaviour, and the Rao was also bound over not to invade their rights, and privileges.

In 1845 Rao Shiv Sinh allotted to the British Government a site on Mount Abu for the purpose of making it a *sadar* station for the Agent to the Governor-General for Rajputana, owing to its salubrious and wholesome climate. One of the terms of the agreement was that no cows were to be slaughtered either on Mount Abu or within any portion of the territories of the Sirohi State, a condition extorted from the English in the true unsophisticated Kshatriya spirit. The British Government have repeatedly urged upon the Rao the necessity of cancelling that arrangement, but without success.

The State was burdened with a heavy debt of two hundred thousand rupees. The Rao requested the Government to place the State under their administration for a time that the debt may be paid off. This request was readily accepted and the State was taken by the Government under their own management. During the course of their administration it appeared that the State yielded an annual revenue of 80,000 rupees. By virtue of the treaty mentioned above, the tribute payable to the English amounted to a sum of 30,000 rupees, which formed a heavy charge on the fisc of so petty a State. It was subsequently reduced by half. In 1857, in the days of the Mutiny, though the State was under British management, the Rao rendered substantial help to the English Government. As a reward for this loyalty to the British Crown, the tribute was again reduced and fixed at 7,500 rupees.

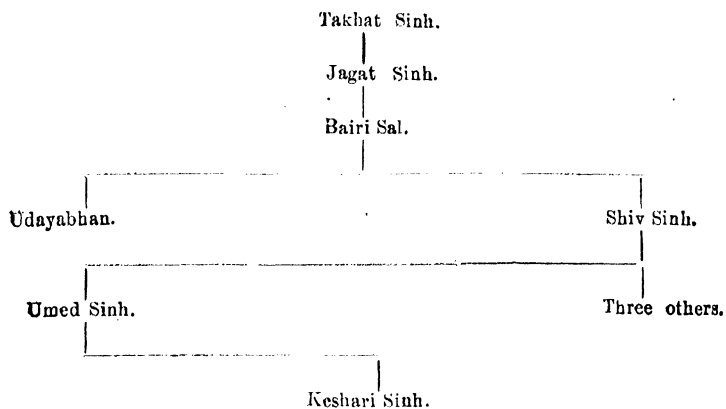
Rao Shiv Sinh on account of his old age, entrusted the management of the State to his son, Umed Sinh, in 1861, reserving to himself the regal dignity and the title of Rao. The same year he died and his son became the *de jure* Rao of Sirohi. The debt incurred during his father's *regime* was paid off in 1865, and the British administration was then raised in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

At the time of Rao Umed Sinh's accession to the throne, his three younger brothers, dissatisfied with the estates given to them in appanage during their father's life-time, revolted against their brother, but they were soon subdued.

Rao Umed Sinh died in September 1875. He has been succeeded by his son, Keshari Sinh, the present Maha Rao of Sirohi. He enjoys full civil and criminal powers over his subjects.

The Maha Rao of Sirohi has been allowed the privilege of adoption, and is entitled to a salute of 15 guns.

Genealogical tree.



(The Present Maha Rao.)

Residence.—Sirohi, Mewad Agency : Rajputana.



SIKKIM.

Area—2,818 sq. miles. Population.—30,458.

Revenue.—42,861 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north and north-east by Tibet, on the south-east by Bhutan, on the south by the British District of Darjiling, and on the west by Nepal.

The rulers of Sikkim enjoy the title of 'Maharaja.' The founder of this principality is said to have originally dwelt in the neighbourhood of Lhasa in Tibet whence he first migrated to Cantak. One of his descendants obtained the title of Raja from the High Priest of the Buddha religion in the 16th century of the Christian era. In 1788 the Gurkhas invaded Sikkim which was then governed by one Morang, but they were persuaded by the Raja of Tibet to return to their country in the following year (1789) on acceptance of a grant of certain elevated tracts of land near Koti Pass. The Gurkhas again marched upon Sikkim in 1792, but were repulsed by the ruling Chief, assisted by the Chinese. Khatmandu was then fixed as the boundary line of Tibet. On the breaking out of a war between the Gurkhas and the English in 1814-15, the latter materially assisted the Raja of Sikkim in driving the Gurkhas out of his realms. The British Government also conferred upon the Raja the territories lying between the rivers Mechi and Tista, which had been ceded to the East India Company by the Raja of Nepal. In 1835 the Raja of Sikkim handed over to the English the hilly regions of Darjiling on their agreeing to pay annually to the Raja the sum of 3,000 rupees. It was subsequently resolved between the year 1841 and 1846 to pay an additional sum of 3,000 rupees to the Chief of Sikkim. Under the auspices of the British Government, Darjiling shewed signs of material progress, and the Diwan, growing jealous of the rapidly increasing influence of the English, seized many of their settlers in that district and sold them as slaves. In 1849 Dr. Hooker the Superintendent of Darjiling and Dr. Campbell repaired to Sikkim, obtaining the permission of the India Government. There they were arrested by the Diwan and thrown into confinement. Of the two, Dr. Campbell was compelled to abide by certain conditions dictated by the imperious Diwan, relating to the relinquishment by the English of all claims to the custody of arrested culprits and the surrender of all those slaves who had already effected their escape. The Diwan also threatened the Doctor that he would be retained in prison until all these stipulations re-

ceived the confirmation of the Imperial Government. The Governor-General, on being informed of all that had occurred at Sikkim, wrote to the Raja that none of his conditions would be complied with, and that he would be held responsible for even the slightest injury done either to Dr. Hooker or Campbell. The Raja seemed considerably frightened and released the two doctors at once without doing them the least harm on December 20th 1849. The English at last commenced warlike operations against the Raja of Sikkim, in the month of February 1850, whereupon he dismissed his ill-adviser, the Diwan. The British Government at once stopped the annual payment of 6,000 rupees and annexed to their dominions Sikkim *tarai* together with all those hilly districts belonging to Sikkim, lying between the rivers Rammam, the great Ranjit and Tista on the frontiers of Nepal. Amicable relations existed between the Raja and the English for the next nine years, when the dismissed Diwan incited his wife, the illegitimate daughter of the Raja, to arrest all the British subjects residing in the hilly tract of Darjiling and the surrounding country and sell them as slaves. Two cases of that nature reached the ears of the British authorities in the year 1860. After vainly endeavouring to obtain the discharge of the persons, so arrested and sold, the Governor-General ordered the sequestration of all those districts lying to the north of the river Rammam and to the west of the river great Ranjit and expressed his determination to retain possession of them until the Raja released the British subjects and surrendered the culprits to be tried before the British tribunal. In November 1860, the Superintendent of Darjiling crossed the river Rammam but was obliged to turn back. A large army was afterwards despatched against Sikkim, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Gawler and Honourable Ashley Eden. They went as far as the river Tista, when the Raja Sikyong Namgyel agreed to accept all the terms dictated by the Viceroy and a fresh treaty was concluded in March 1861. The payment of an yearly amount of 6,000 rupees which had been stopped from 1850 was not only resumed in 1862 but as a mark of appreciation of the Raja's friendship, it was increased in 1868 to 9,000 rupees; and in 1873 to 12,000 rupees a year. Raja Sikyong Namgyel died in 1874 and was succeeded by his half-brother Thothub Namgyel, the present Maharaja of Sikkim.

Thothub, on the death of his half-brother, married the widow, Pending, who bore him three children. The eldest was a daughter named

Namgyel Durno, born in 1876, while of the two sons, the elder Tchoda Namgyel, heir-presumptive to the throne was born in 1877 and the other Chotal was born in 1879. Rani Pending died in the following year in child-bed.

In 1875 Sir Richard Temple had a friendly interview with the Chief, when the British Government were asked to undertake the conservation of certain valuable forests in the Sikkim territory. The arrangement, however, was not successfully carried out owing to several unforeseen difficulties. In 1877, the Maharaja was invited to be present at the Imperial Assemblage held at Delhi on 1st January in honor of the assumption by H. M. Queen Victoria of the title of Empress of India. He was prevented from attending it in person and the banner, medal and ring were presented to him at a subsequent date by the Hon. Sir John Edgar K. C. I. E., C. S. I. then Deputy Commissioner of Darjiling at Tumlong. Disputes regarding the settlement of the Nepalese within the Sikkim territory were raging since the year 1872 and with a view to finally settle the question, the Maharaja accompanied by Changzed Kar-po went in November 1878 to Kalimpong to have an interview with Sir Ashley Eden, the then Lieutenant Governor of Bengal. It was there agreed that the Nepalese settlers should be admitted in certain districts under certain restrictions. This arrangement did not work well owing to the intrigues of the exiled minister Namgay and his associates, and in 1880 matters came to a crisis, ending in the breaking out of disturbances at several places and a bloody fight at Rhenok. Mr. A. W. Paul was sent to Tumlong for a fresh settlement and a new agreement was drawn up on 14th April 1880.

Changzed Kar-po visited Giantzi where he met the Chinese Amban and some Tibetan officials. This visit took place shortly after the Maharaja's interview with Sir Ashley Eden and is believed to have terminated in a secret agreement with the Tibetan Government. Raja Thothub Namgyel was invested with a Chinese Button of the first rank. Changzed Kar-po died in 1879, a short time after his visit to Giantzi. As stated above, the Rani Pending died in child-bed in 1880. The death of these two influential personages left the sole power into the hands of the old Rani Men-chi and the exiled Diwan Namgay. They favoured and advanced the Tibetan interests at the Sikkim Court and espoused the cause of Tinde who was the son of the old Rani.

After the death of Pending Raja Thothub passed his days in peace at Tumlong without the slightest intention of marrying again. At last

through the influence of certain officers residing at Lhassa, the Raja was prevailed upon to accept as his wife, the daughter of Shafe Utok, one of the leading men of Tibet. This match was subsequently broken off by the old Rani and the intriguing Diwan Namgay, who secured for the Raja the hand of a girl, far inferior in position and respectability to the one selected by the Tibetan Officers. Tintle had by that time attained majority and the old Rani and her associate were intriguing to place him in direct succession to the *gauli*. The new wife of Thothub was introduced to the youthful Tintle and it is alleged that the Rani gave birth to two children before she had even seen the face of her lord Thothub. As polyandry was allowed under the Tibetan law, this circumstance of a joint marriage alone served to prove that Thothub and Tintle were legitimate brothers born of the Royal blood.

Raja Thothub refused to regard the girl as his wife and remained at Sikkim upto 1884. Tintle proceeded in 1885 to Chombi to settle the dispute between Bhutan and Tibet which seriously hampered the local traffic. The Raja also went to that place where he was requested to remain while the Macaulay Mission was in progress (1886). The Tibetans, after the work of the Mission was over, made an advance into Sikkim and built a fortification at Lingtu. Thothub was asked by the India Government to leave Chombi and return to Gantak but he persistently refused to do so till his pension was stopped in December 1887. The British Government despatched an army against Lingtu in March 1888 and the Tibetans were compelled to evacuate the fortress. The Sikkim expedition ended in September with the expulsion of the Tibetans across the Jelep pass. Sheng Tai, the Chinese Resident, arrived at Gnatong at the end of 1888, and preliminary negotiations were opened for the settlement of the Sikkim-Tibetan disputes. These negotiations also failed to accomplish the desired object. Fresh negotiations were opened towards the close of the year 1889 when Mr. James Harst, of the Chinese Imperial Customs Service visited Darjiling. At last, a convention was signed at Calcutta on 17th March 1890 for the solution of the Sikkim-Tibetan disputes.

In 1889 Mr. White, Executive Engineer, was appointed Assistant Political Officer at Gantak to assist the Maharaja in the administration of his State. A Council consisting of representative and influential men in Sikkim was also formed for the same object. Good well-bridged roads have

already been constructed between Pedong in the British territory and the Jelep pass and further on to Tumlong.

The Maharaja remained at Rubdenchi throughout the year 1891 without showing any concern for the conduct of state-affairs. The Council in vain persuaded him to return to Gantak. From Rubdenchi he removed to Pemionchi, which place he secretly left in March 1892 with a view to proceed to Tibet. While passing through Nepal, the whole party was stopped and the Maharaja and his retinue were, under advice from the Supreme Government, safely escorted back to the British territory. It was at that juncture that the Maharaja was informed that as he refused to comply with the conditions proposed by the British Government, he was no longer qualified to remain in power. The movements of the deposed Maharaja were strictly watched by the British officers who kept him under surveillance.

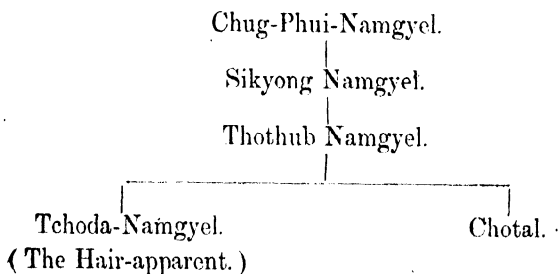
The administration of Sikkim has since been carried on by the Assistant Political Officer loyally aided by the Council established in 1889.

The Heir-apparent, Tchoda-Namgyel is now residing in Tibet.

The Maharaja of Sikkim has judicial powers of life and death and is entitled to a salute of 15 guns.

Genealogical tree.

Phun-tsho-Namgyel, Ten-sung Namgyel, Cha-dhor Namgyel, Gyur-me Namgyel, Namgyel-Phun-tsho, Ten-zin-Namgyel and.—



Residence.—Tumlog, Sikkim territory; Bengal.

BHAVNAGAR.

Area.—2,860 sq. miles. Population.—467,282.

Revenue.—3,500,000 rupees.

The territory of Bhavnagar is bounded on the north by the Ahmedabad Collectorate, Panchal, Kanpur and several districts of Jhalawad ; on the east by the gulf of Cambay and the Dhandhuka Taluka ; on the south by the Arabian Sea ; and on the west by Sorath, Halar and some Talukas of Kathiawad proper.

The Thakore of Bhavnagar is a Gohel Rajput of the Lunar race. He traces his descent from the celebrated Shalivahan, who in 77 A. D. ruled at Peithan in the Deccan. A descendant of Shalivahan, several degrees removed from him, conquered the kingdom of Juna Khengarh in Marwad from its Bhil ruler Khedwa and established an independent kingdom there. It is said that twenty of his descendants ruled there. The last of them, Mohodas, was defeated and killed by Shiyoji, the grand-son of Jayachand Rathod, the last of the Rajput Kings of Kanouj ; and the Rathods, thus settled themselves in Marwad. The present ruler of Marwad (Jodhpur) is a descendant of this Shiyoji.

After the death of Mohodas, the Gohels under the guidance of Sejakji, the grand-son of Mohodas, migrated to Sorath for the first time in or about 1250. Mohodas had a son named Jhangharji, who was the father of Sejakji. When the Gohels first entered Sorath, that province was held by Rah Mehepo *alias* Mahipal III. His seat of government was at Junagarh, where the fugitive Gohels went and sought his protection. Rah Mahipal and his son Khengar accorded them a cordial reception and appointed Sejakji to an influential post in the State. The Rah also conferred upon him the grant of Shahpur and twelve adjacent villages. Sejakji with a view to strengthen his connection with the Rah gave his daughter Valam Kunwarba in marriage to the Raha's eldest son Khengar. He also with the permission of the Rah built a new village and called it, after him, Sejakpur. Staying there, he conquered the neighbouring districts and established an independent principality. He gave to his four brothers four villages in *giras*, while his fifth brother Visoji repaired to Khas and marrying a maiden of the Mehr tribe, remained there. He accordingly got the appellation of Khasia Koli. Sejakji had three sons, Ranoji, Shahji, and Sarangji. Of these, the last two were the brothers of Valam Kunwarba.

The Rah bestowed upon Shahji a grant of 24 villages called the Mandvi *chovisi*; while a similar grant of 24 villages styled the Arthila *chovisi* was given to Sarangji. The descendants of Shahji are this day reigning at Palitana, while those of Sarangji are the rulers of Lathi.

Sejakji died in 1290 and was succeeded by his eldest son Ranoji. He founded Ranpur and transferred his seat of government there. In a fight with the Mussalmans, Ranoji was slain and Ranpur fell into the hands of the victors (1309). Ranpur is even to-day a Mussalman Taluka under Dhandhuka.

After the death of Ranoji, his son Mokhdaji conquered Bhimdad from the Vala Rajputs and Umralla from the Kolis and took up his residence at the last mentioned place. Gohel Mokhdaji succeeded in driving away the Mussalmans from Khokhra and Gogha and reduced them to submission and seizing Piram, then in the hands of Baria Kolis, transferred his seat of government thither. Juma Khan *alias* Mahmud Taghalak, Emperor of Delhi, when he heard about the capture of Gogha by Mokhdaji, marched to join battle with him. When he reached Gogha, Mokhdaji was residing in Piram. The Emperor's army consisting of cavalry, infantry, and archers lay encamped on the sea-shore near Gogha. Mokhdaji from his den at Piram began roaring like a wild lion. The Mussalman archers tried their skill by shooting arrows against the Gohel army but without the least success. The Emperor then took recourse to intrigues and began to devise plans to make a sudden onslaught on the isle of Piram, but between him and his antagonist he saw the waters of the sea rolling tumultuously which made him lose his heart. Mokhdaji, however, was endued with a braver heart. He thought that death was inevitable sooner or later and that it was cowardly to remain pent up in the island. With the determination of fighting with the Mussalmans, he attended by the cream of his soldiery, left one night for Gogha in small boats. He ordered the gates of Gogha to be thrown open and wearing the saffron robe with sabre in his hand and accompanied by the bravest of his brave followers, attacked the Mahomedan camp. The contest grew fierce and the sounds of drum, horn and tocsin pervaded the whole atmosphere. Many of the Mussalmans were slain and torrents of blood began to flow. At last the rival troops met pell-mell and a hand-to-hand fight ensued. The Emperor's nephew hurled his javelin at Mokhdaji

riding an elephant and his aim proved too true; for the brave Gohel fell down on the ground. He was again on his legs in a moment and made a havoc in the enemy's ranks with his blood-thirsty blade. After killing many of the Mussalmans who came within the reach of his sword, the valiant Mokhdaji fell. It is said that even after his head was severed from his trunk, the head was heard crying 'strike' 'kill' in the middle of the Gogha gate, while his trunk was seen advancing and fighting furiously with sabre in hand. The Emperor with only a few followers survived this bloody battle. The Mahomedans intercepted the further progress of the headless trunk of Mokhdaji by placing in front of it a piece of thread dyed black with *guli* (indigo). The trunk fell lifeless on the ground* and the sword ceased dealing destruction among the enemy's troops (1317).

Mokhdaji married two wives, one of whom was the daughter of the Parmar chief of Rajpipla, while the other belonged to the tribe of Sarvaiya Rajputs, residing at Hathsani near Palitana. By the latter, he had a son named Dungarsinhji, while Samarsinhji was the name of his son by the Rajpipla wife. Both these princes escaped and took refuge within the territories of their maternal kinsmen. When the Emperor's army returned to Delhi, Dungarsinhji reconquered and settled in Gohelwad, while his brother Samarsinhji succeeded his maternal uncle on the Rajpipla *gadi*, assuming the name of Arjunsinhji.

Dungarsinhji, the eldest son of Mokhdaji, having established himself in Gohelwad, made Gogha his principal seat of government. After his death in 1370 he was succeeded by Vijoji, who dying in 1395 was succeeded by Kanoji.

After the death of Kanoji in 1420 Sarangji came to the throne. During his reign Ahmad Shah I, King of Gujarat, sent a detachment of his troops to Gohelwad to levy tribute from its Chief. The affairs of Gohelwad were then carried on by Ramji, the uncle of Sarangji. He sent word to the Mahomedan general that as there were not funds enough to pay the whole tribute demanded, he had better accept the sum offered by him. He also promised to send prince Sarangji to the

* A monumental stone in honour of Mokhdaji is to be seen there even at this day. The Hindus, as a rule, place there a small bit of opium; and the seamen while sailing by Piram, throw a small portion of their provisions into the sea as an offering to Mokhdaji.

enemy's camp as a hostage for the payment of the remaining sum. The Mahomedan commander accepted the terms and returned to Ahmedabad, taking with him his hostage Sarangji. Ramji thus getting rid of the rightful heir, assumed the reins of government in his own hands and carried on the affairs as an independent ruler. Sarangji at last saw that he was made to rot in the enemy's hands, by his uncle who was making no efforts to obtain his release by sending the balance of the tribute, but on the contrary was carrying on the government of Ghoelwad in his own name. He subsequently effected his escape from Ahmedabad and took refuge with Patai Rawal, the chief of Champaner. With the assistance afforded by this chieftain he marched against his uncle Ramji and pitched his camp at Umralla. Ramji was taken by surprise and sought the assistance of his cousins, reigning at Lathi and Gariyadhar (Palitana), promising in return to grant each of them *tappas* of 12 villages. Sarangji when he heard this requested the same chiefs to assist him who was the rightful heir to the *gadi* and offered them the same reward. The chiefs of Lathi and Gariyadhar seeing that Sarangji had a better claim to the throne went over to his side, whereupon Ramji abandoning all his claims to the throne surrendered himself to his nephew. Sarangji gave him in appanage Manpur and four other *tappas* and established his seat of government at Umralla. Sarangji to commemorate the shelter given him by Patai Rawal at his court and the subsequent help rendered by him in regaining his lost kingdom assumed the title of Rawal.

Rawal Sarangji died in 1445 and was succeeded by Shavdasji, after whose death in 1470 came to the throne Jethaji, who reigned till the year 1500. He left behind him two sons Ramdasji and Gangdasji; of whom the elder, Ramdasji, succeeded to the throne; while the younger Gangdasji received the appanage of Chamardi. The descendants of Gangdasji are called Chamardia Gohels. They are now mostly to be seen in Kutch. Rawal Ramdasji married the daughter of Rana Sang of Chitod. When Sultan Mahmud, the king of Malwa, invaded Chitod, Ramdasji went there to his father-in-law's succour. He, however, fell in the struggle in 1535.

Rawal Ramdasji had three sons, Sartanji, Sadulji and Bhinaji. Of these, the eldest Sartanji succeeded his father, while Adhewada and Tana were granted to Sadulji and Bhinji respectively. Rawal Sartanji died in 1570 leaving behind him four sons, Visoji, Devoji, Viroji and

Mokaji. The eldest Visoji ascended the throne, while the other three received the appanage of Pachhogam, Avania and Navania respectively.

In the reign of Rawal Visoji a petty dispute arose between the Ranas and the Janis, the two rival sects among Brahman *Jagirdars* of Sihor. The Ranas sought the assistance of Khandhoji, the chief of Gariyadhar, while the Janis called to their help the Rawal Chief. Visoji marched with his army upon Sihor and captured it. From that date he made Sihor his capital.

Rawal Visoji died in 1600 leaving behind him three sons of whom the eldest Dhunoji ascended the throne at Sihor ; while the estates of Haliyad and Bhadli were granted to Bhimji and Kasiaji. In 1619 Noghanji, the son of Khandhoji, who was reigning at Gariyadhar, was dethroned and driven away by Loma Khuman, a Kathi of Kherdi. Noghanji there-upon besought the assistance of Rawal Dhunoji. While the Rawal was making preparations to march against the Kathis, they all of a sudden fell upon Dhunoji and a handful of his followers, and in the scuffle Dhunoji lost his life. He was succeeded by Ratanji. He was also slain while fighting with the Kathis, Kolis and Sarvaiya Rajputs in 1620.

Rawal Ratanji had three sons, Harbhamji, Govindji and Sarangji. Harbhamji succeeded to the throne but died in 1622 after reigning for two years only. He left behind him a son named Akherajji, but as he was an infant, he was superseded by Govindji. Lilaujiba, the sister of the late Rawal Harbhamji, was married to Rao Bharmalji of Kutch. The widow of Harbhamji with her infant son went over to Kutch and sought the protection of the Rao. After a short time she returned and commenced operations against Govindji. The usurper called to his assistance the *Fouzdur* of Junagarh to whom he relinquished in return all his claims upon Gogha.

In 1636 Govindji died and was succeeded by Chhatrasalji. Keshavji and other partisans of Akherajji, the son of Harbhamji, contrived to enter the palace, and capturing Chhatrasalji while asleep, they proclaimed Akherajji the King of Sihor and its subject territories. Chhatrasalji was granted the *tappa* of Bhandaria. Rawal Akherajji invited Desai Ramji, *thandur* of Loliyana, to his capital and conferred upon him the Diwanship. Once more did Noghanji of Gariyadhar seek the assistance of the Rawal chief in expelling the Kathis from his capital and reinstating him on the

throne. Akherajji accordingly marched at the head of his troops against the Kathi rebels and drove them away, he restored Gariyadhar to Noghanji.

Rawal Akherajji died in 1660 leaving behind him four sons, Ratanji, Harbhanji, Vijayarajji and Sartanji. Of these the eldest Ratanji succeeded him, while the rest received the grants of Vartej, Thordi, and Moglana respectively.

Rawal Ratanji dying in 1703 was succeeded by Bhavsinhji, who was then 20 years old. In 1722 Kanthaji Kadam and Pilaji Rao Gaekwad besieged the fort of Sihor. In the struggle that ensued, the invaders were compelled to raise the siege, but in defending the citadel Bhavsinhji lost many of his bravest soldiers. Fearing a fresh attack from the enemy the Rawal Chief left Sihor and took up his residence at a small village named Vadva situated near the mouth of the creek, a few miles to the north of Gogha. In 1723 Bhavsinhji built a new city on that spot and named it after him Bhavnagar. He from that date transferred his seat of government from Sihor to Bhavnagar.

The situation of Bhavnagar seemed favourable from two different stand-points: one was that being situated on the mouth of a creek, it afforded a speedy escape by ships, in the event of a foreign invasion; while the other was that being a good harbour site, it promised to command the inland trade of the whole province. In course of time the new capital shewed signs of future prosperity. At the time when Rawal Bhavsinhji transferred his seat of government to Bhavnagar, Mirza Jafar *alias* Momin Khan was reigning at Cambay, while Surat was in the hands of Sorab Khan. The latter had great influence at the Imperial Court at Delhi which induced Bhavsinhji to remain on friendly terms with him. When the Emperor dismissed Sorab Khan from Surat he took refuge at the court of Bhavsinhji. The Rawal built the harbour of Bhavnagar with the help of Sorab Khan. His victory over the Marathas and his friendship with Sorab Khan combined to augment his influence throughout the province. Gogha was formerly granted to Babi Salabat Mahmud Khan as an appanage. Subsequently it was transferred to Sorab Khan, who, on becoming the *Naib fowzdar* of Sorath, gave to the Babi the *jagir* of Bantwa in exchange for Gogha. Sorab Khan was killed in a fight with Ratansinhji Bhandari in 1735. His death instead of doing any harm did much good to Bhavsinhji: who, in 1739 entered into a treaty with the officer commanding the

Surat citadel. It was agreed that the Surat Kiledar (fort-keeper) should protect the trade of Bhavnagar for which he was to get in return $1\frac{1}{4}$ p. c. of the customs realized at Bhavnagar, that the duty on the goods exported by merchants from Surat should be less than that on the goods exported by foreign merchants: while merchants from Bhavnagar should be totally exempted from paying any duty at Surat. It was also stipulated that the Chief of Bhavnagar and the Kiledar of Surat should jointly take prompt measures to put a stop to piracy, so extensively practised on the coast of Sorath. The chief reason which brought about this treaty was the sudden change in the government of the neighbouring territories. In 1738 Gogha was restored to the Babi by Mirza Jafar *alias* Momin Khan, the Mughal Suba of Gujarat. It was in the same year that Babi Mahmud Bahadur (Sher Khan) was made governor of Sorath. In 1755 some disputes arose between the Suba and the Babi which made the former confiscate from the latter the *jagir* of Gogha. After that, when the Peshwa conquered Ahmedabad, Gogha, too, fell into his hands. In 1759 when the English conquered the fort and harbour of Surat from the Sidi Kiledar (officer), Bhavsinhji re-affirmed the old stipulations with the new conquerors also. Rawal Bhavsinhji died in 1764. He left behind him Akherajji, Visoji, Ramdasji, Gowaji, and a fifth son whose name is yet unknown. Of these, the eldest Akherajji ascended the throne of Bhavnagar, while to the rest were granted the villages of Vala, Haliyad, Rampur, and Ratanpur respectively. During the decline of the Mughal power, the *thandar* of Mahuwa, who was a Kharedia Mussalman by caste, assumed independence and appropriated to himself the government of the *thana*. Mishri Khasio who was living in the vicinity seized Mahuwa with its adjacent villages and carried on his raids to the very gates of Bhavnagar. Akherajji defeated and vanquished this upstart Mishri Khasio.

The fort of Talaja was then in the hands of Baria Kolis, a lawless mob of banditti carrying on pillage on the adjacent sea coast, not sparing even English ships that fell occasionally within their clutches. The English marched against them in 1771 and extirpated the whole race. Akherajji lent his assistance to the English troops. It was their combined armies that captured the stronghold of Talaja. The English offered the newly conquered hill-fort to Akherajji, which he thankfully refused as it was situated at a pretty good distance from his metropolis. The English there-upon sold the fort of Talaja to the Nawab of Cambay for a sum of Rs. 75,000.

Rawal Akerajji died in 1772 and was succeeded by Vakhatsinhji, who was generally known by his pet name of Atabhai. When he ascended the throne the State of Bhavnagar comprised within its domains the districts of Sihor, Gundi, Koliyak, Vartej, Umralla, Trapaj, Bhandaria, and Diyor, a portion of Sarvaiya district, and several villages in Bhal. The hill-fort of Talaja was held by the Nawab of Cambay, but as it was situated at a very great distance from the Nawab's capital, the *thandar* appointed there frequently set at naught the orders of his master. Vakhatsinhji now turned his eyes upon that citadel and agreed to purchase it for Rs. 75,000. When he went there to take possession of it, the *thandar* opposed him but was defeated and the fort fell into the hands of Vakhatsinhji. The whole province of Kathaiwad was at that time infested by gangs of Khuman Kathi, Koli, and Jat robbers and outlaws. They laid waste the territory of the chief of Lathi. His Bhayad, Vakhatsinhji, marched against them with a large army, defeated and dispersed them. He took Lathi and the adjacent villages under his protection and placing there detachments of his troops compelled the Kathis of the Khachar and Khuman clans to own allegiance to him. He also took the Chudasma Rajput *Jagirdars* of Bhal under his protection and thus enhanced his power and influence.

After the conquest of Mahuwa by Mishri Khasio from the Kharedia Mussalman, he gave to his nephew Hamir Khasio the grant of Vagnagar. Hamir conquered Jhanjhamer, Unchadi, Kotda, and other villages from the land-holders of the Vaja tribe and made Jhanjhamer his seat of government. From that place Hamir commenced plundering the villages under Talaja. Khimabhai, the *thandar* of Talaja, reported the matter to Vakhatsinhji, who in 1788 proceeded against Jhanjhamer at the head of a large army. He defeated Hamir and reduced all his possessions to submission. Hamir fled to Gopnath and took refuge with the Mahant (religious head) of that place. Vakhatsinhji pursued him thither but on his agreeing to cede all the villages he had seized and on his undertaking not to plunder any of the villages of Bhavnagar, Vakhatsinhji returned to his capital. The Rawal also captured several of the villages held by the Girasias of the Vaja tribe, but eventually restored to them some portion of the land and the village of Madhuvan, which their descendants enjoy even to the present day.

In 1784 Mahuwa was held by Jasoraj, the uncle of Hamir Khasio. Vakhatsinhji marched against him with an army consisting of 15,000 brave

soldiers. The contest lasted for six days without any decisive result. At last on the seventh day the besiegers succeeded in effecting a small breach in the wall. On hearing this, Jaso fled to Rajula during night and Mahuwa fell into the hands of Vakhatsinhji. There was at that time a small detachment of the Junagarh Nawab stationed at Mahuwa which was also turned out. Jaso urged Bhola Dhankhada of Rajula to wrest Mahuwa from the hands of the new conqueror, but Vakhatsinhji, with rare promptness, marched against Rajula. Bhola assisted Jaso in effecting his escape from Rajula, while he himself surrendered to Vakhatsinhji. The victor placed a small contingent at Rajula, annexing a portion of the territory to his own dominions. Jaso fled from Rajula to Dedan and thence concealed himself in the Gir forest.

Kundla was then in the hands of a Kathi chief named Alo Khuman. He had six sons, Bhoj, Mulu, Hado, Luno, Suro and Viro. After the death of Alo a dispute arose among these six brothers for succession. Bhoj sought the assistance of Vakhatsinhji. In return he agreed to cede to him all his territories, reserving only a small portion for himself. Bhoj after making such an agreement went to Kundla where he was molested by his five brothers. Vakhatsinhji sent a small detachment to Bhoj's assistance but the Khumans defeated it. At last Vakhatsinhji dispatched a large army which obtained a victory over the Khumans, though they had called to their assistance a party of Junagarh troops.

Jaso Khasio of Mahuwa, who had concealed himself in the Gir forest, at times sallied out of his safe retreat and plundered the neighbouring villages under the Bhavnagar State. Vakhatsinhji on being informed that Hamir Khasio of Vaghnagar was secretly lending his assistance to the outlaw ordered the officer commanding the Mahuwa citadel to march against Vaghnagar and capture it at once. Hamir thereupon fled to Gir and joined his kinsman Jaso Khasio. They created a regular havoc by pillaging many of the villages and overrunning the greater part of the Mahuwa district. In 1790 Vakhatsinhji at the head of a large army marched in person against Kundla. Mulu and Hado, the brothers of Bhoj, made preparations to oppose the advancing army of the Bhavnagar Chief, but they were both overtaken all of a sudden at Kundla, whence they escaped to Mitiyala. Kundla thus fell into the hands of Vakhatsinhji without much ado. The Kathi brothers were pursued to Mitiyala, where they with their followers were routed and Vakhatsinhji

placed a detachment of his troops at that station. He also seized Samdi and other villages belonging to the Kathi chiefs of Gundran and Liliya, who were also making preparations to oppose him. He returned to Bhavnagar after erecting several *thanas* (military posts) in those turbulent parts. In 1792-93 the Khumans of Kundla besought the assistance of Vira Vala of Jetpur, Kumpa Vala of Chital, Vajsur Khachar of Jasdan and the Khasia brothers Jaso and Hamir. They also called to their aid the Kathis from Paliyad, Chotila, Botad and Gadhda. All these chiefs assembled together at Chital, the residence of Kumpa Vala, and raised a formidable army. Vakhatsinhji, in order to oppose their combined efforts, summoned to his succour the chiefs of Vala, Lathi and several other Bhayads and before the enemy could get time to march upon Bhavnagar, he attacked their strong-hold of Chital and lay encamped at a distance from which his guns could exactly be brought to bear upon the walls of the enemy's strong-hold. The Kathis were as helpless against such bombardment as they were skilful in guerilla warfare and outlawry. The continuous salvos of cannon-shots dispersed the Kathi bands by degrees and the fort of Chital was at length left in the hands of a few brave hearts who could not long hold out against the more powerful besiegers. At last Vakhatsinhji fell upon the castle and seized it. The brother of Kumpa Vala was captured, while the other Kathis fled to their native places. The Rawal Chief subsequently released the captive brother of Kumpa Vala who was taken prisoner and posted a party of his troops at Chital. He also created outposts at Gadhda, Botad, Bhingarh and several other villages and subduing the Kathis as far as the very limits of Babra, he demolished the fortress of Babra and Jasdan and captured the hill-fort of Bhanyara. He at last returned to Bhavnagar after placing *thanas* at Jhamrala and other places for preserving peace in the Botad Taluka.

After some time Jaso Khasio met his death, which seriously impaired the strength and power of his nephews Khimo Khasio and Hamir Khasio. Vakhatsinhji too, now that he had created so many enemies abroad began to grow apprehensive of his safety. Both these circumstances combined to bring about an amicable settlement between the contending parties. They mutually agreed upon certain terms, by which Vakhatsinhji ceded to Hamir ten villages under Sedarda, while to Khimo were given twelve villages under Monpur. The treaty thus brought to an end

a long-standing contest between the Bhavnagar Darbar and his Kathi antagonists.

Unadji Gohel who was reigning at Palitana, fixed his eyes upon Sihor and in 1794 with a view to seize it he sought the assistance of the Kathis of the Khuman tribe who had gone into outlawry against Vakhatsinhji and who were lying concealed in the Gir forest. Unadji's plan was to first seize Tana and then march to Sihor. Vakhatsinhji, when he came to know of his plans, proceeded to Sihor but as Unadji had already dispatched his army to Tana, Vakhatsinhji too sent there a detachment under the command of Raysinh to frustrate his design. In the very first onslaught one of the Kathis in the army of Unadji fell dead on the ground. The other Kathis alighted from their horses to pick up the corpse of the deceased Kathi but in that attempt many of Unadji's men were slain, while the rest fled for their lives. Vakhatsinhji returned to Bhavnagar after placing outposts at Modhara, Badhna and Tana situated within his own territory. The fugitive Kathis took refuge in the Gir forest. On their way Mulu Khuman was slain and the command was given by the outlaws to his brother Hada Khuman. The Kathis pillaged the village of Saganla and when Vakhatsinhji marched to oppose them they concealed themselves in the hills of Salimala.

In 1795 Shivram Gardi at the head of the Gaekwadi troops arrived in Kathiawad to levy tribute from the chiefs. He pitched his camp near Moti Dharai and thence made preparations to proceed against Sihor. Vakhatsinhji sent him word that as his territories had been laid waste by freebooters he had no money to pay him the tribute. Shivram, however, insisted upon the payment of the sum demanded whereupon the rival armies met at Loliyana and the contest lasted for three consecutive days. At last Shivram retired with his troops towards Undsurvaiya. While Vakhatsinhji was engaged in this contest, Unadji of Palitana and Hada Khuman attacked Sihor but they were both repulsed by the gallant resistance offered by Pathabhai the *Thandar* of that place. Mamaiyo, the brother of Bhola Dhan khada besought the assistance of the Nawab of Junagarh and marched against Rajula. The Belims residing there surrendered the castle to the invaders without the least opposition. Vakhatsinhji, when he was informed of it, sent one of his Bhayads Kayabhai to Rajula with a large army. He on his way took with him Anantji, a Nagar Brahman, and several horsemen from

Mahuwa and recaptured Rajula. The Nawab of Junagarh, who had taken up the cause of Mamaiyo, marched in person at the head of a large army to the scene of action. He was on his way re-inforced by the malcontent Kathis. A fierce battle took place between the two armies near Rajula in which Kayabhai and Anantji were slain and Rajula once more fell into the hands of the Nawab and his partisans.

The Khumans intoxicated with this victory incited the Nawab to proceed to Bhavnagar whereupon the whole army marched towards the capital. Vakhatsinhji was ready to oppose the advancing troops. The rival armies met near Versal where a fierce struggle ensued without any decisive result. The Nawab, however, retired towards Lathi and encamped near Jharkhiya. Once more did the Kathis excite the Nawab to march upon Bhavnagar urging that if he did not do so history would record their retreat as a defeat and to wipe off that stain they had better make another attempt. The Nawab thereupon raised his camp and proceeded to Patan. Vakhatsinhji was then at Dhasa. In the battle that took place many men on both sides were killed when it was terminated through the intervention of Jiaji Jethwa, the Rana of Porbandar, who had married to the sister of Vakhatsinhji. The two rival chiefs were reconciled on condition that Vakhatsinhji should pay to the Nawab a sort of tribute called the '*Zortalbi*,' Hakka, and that the Nawab should in return relinquish all his claims to Kundla, Rajula and Liliya. The Nawab returned to Junagarh and the Kathi chiefs went to their respective homes. (1796).

Vakhatsinhji was in the peril of losing his throne, had it not been for the kind intercession of his brother-in-law the Rana of Porbandar. It was only after so many fierce struggles that he came to understand that the race of Kathis was too strong for him to subdue and that there was no use keeping them always at daggers drawn with him. He conciliated them all in 1797-98 restoring Chital and the adjoining territory to Kumpavala, while to the Vala of Gundran, Bala, Loma Khuman and Kharapat he ceded some estates for their respectable maintenance. To Hado Khuman and others he granted ten villages in addition to Babriyadhar; while to the Khachars of Gadhda and Botad he restored a portion of the conquered territory. He also made peace with Vajsur the brave Khachar of Jasdian.

Now that the Kathis were pacified, Vakhatsinhji had nothing to fear from that quarter. He abandoned his aggrandising policy and turned his attention to the material improvement of his dominions.

The power of the English became consolidated in Gujarat by the terms of the treaty of Bassein which took place between the English and the Peshwa on 31st December 1802. Next year Vakhatsinhji entrusting the management of his State to the British Government went on a pilgrimage to Dwarka, Sorathi Somnath, Porbandar and other places. He soon after returned to Bhavnagar.

The right of levying tribute from Bhavnagar owned by the Peshwa was by the treaty of Bassein transferred to the English. The task of levying this tribute and generally supervising the affairs of Bhavnagar was entrusted to the Resident of Baroda and the Collector of Kaira. Colonel Walker, the Resident of Baroda, reported to the Bombay Government in 1804 and 1806 regarding the claims put for the by the Chief of Bhavnagar to some of the villages under Gogha, Dhandhuka and Ranpur *parganas*. Vakhatsinhji objected to certain portions of these reports as they were unfavourable to his interests.

In 1804 Babaji Apaji, Diwan to His Highness the Gaekwad, marched upon Sihor at the head of a large army and lay encamped near the village of Amla. He sent his Vakils to Vakhatsinhji's court asking him to pay the tribute, but the Chief boldly refused. The Diwan began cannonading the hill-fort of Sihor but was eventually compelled to retire. Next year he resumed his demand from Vakhatsinhji and marched upon Bhavnagar. Strong bombardment was kept up on both sides for ten successive days, when at last Vakhatsinhji paid the tribute demanded and Babaji returned to Baroda.

After some time Kumbhoji, the Thakore of Gondal, who was matrimonially related to Vakhatsinhji brought about a reconciliation between the rival chiefs of Bhavnagar and Palitana. As a token of friendship Unadji, the Thakore of Palitana, ceded to Vakhatsinhji the village of Pingli near Talaja.

In 1807 were determined the sums which the Thakore of Bhavnagar had to pay as tributes to the Peshwa and the Gaekwad. It was at that time that the amount of the *Zorabai* Hakka imposed by the Nawab of Junagarh was also fixed.

In accordance with the terms of the treaty of Bassein the districts of Gogha, Dhandhuka and Ranpur were ceded by the Peshwa to the English. As the Thakore of Bhavnagar had also certain claims on some of the villages

in these *parganas*, his interest at times conflicted with that of the Paramount Power. Vakhatsinhji strongly opposed the intervention of the English officers in the affairs concerning his own State and a dispute arose between Vakhatsinhji and the English Government. The interference of the English with the administration of Bhavnagar was a matter of necessity on the following grounds. The Peshwa had relinquished to them the right of levying tribute from Bhavnagar and applying it towards defraying the expenses of the English contingent. The work of exacting the *Peshkashi*, due to the Peshwa, and *Zortalbi*, a *Hakka* levied by the Nawab of Junagarh had been undertaken by the English. The 1½ p. c. of sea customs revenue originally stipulated to be paid to the Kildar of Surat, was agreed to be paid to the English. The Collector of Kaira obtained from Vakhatsinhji, a *kabulat* (agreement) whereby the Thakore agreed to pay an enhanced tribute (6½ p. c.) on the villages in the sub-division of Ranpur and a similarly enhanced tribute (9½ p. c.) on the villages in the Gogha sub-division.

In 1812 Vakhatsinhji, on his attaining a good old age, entrusted during his lifetime the management of the State to his son Vajesinhji. In 1813-14 this part of the country was visited by a dire famine (known popularly by the name of *Agnatro*, 1869 being the Samvat year). To avoid the pangs of starvation some low-caste people killed a cow and subsisted for a time on its flesh. The Chief, a true Hindu, executed the cow killer. The Collector of Kaira thereupon wrote to the Raja that as he was not an independent prince he had no power over the life and death of his subjects. He also wrote that the Thakore of Bhavnagar was a mere petty *Zamindar* empowered only to collect the land-revenues of his State. The Resident of Baroda treated him with all the respect due to an independent Chief, but the Collector of Kaira argued that when the English Government were competent at any moment to enhance the amount of tribute paid to them by the Thakore, he was no more an independent Chief than a mere petty land-holder. He also wrote strongly to the Government of Bombay against the Raja of Bhavnagar, regarding the execution of the cow killer. He expressed his opinion that the criminal jurisdiction exercised by the Thakore over the villages in Gogha, Dhandhuka, and Ranpur sub-divisions, should be discontinued. The Imperial Government on these and other grounds deprived the Thakore of his criminal jurisdiction over these villages in the year 1816.

Rawal Vakhatsinhji died in the year 1816 after reigning for 44 years. He had three sons Vajesinhji, Bapji, and Bayasinhji, of whom the eldest Vajesinhji succeeded to the throne. He was managing the affairs of the State during his father's life-time. In 1812 Bapji was granted the villages of Wawdi, Tarsara, and Rahila; while Bayasinhji received the grant of two villages. His appanage however was soon after reverted to the State by way of escheat, as he died without issue. In 1827 the Khumans of Kundla burnt the villages of Bubariyadhar and Barbatana and rebelled in a body under the leadership of Hado Khuman. They also plundered Mitiyala and other villages under Kundla. They were pursued by the military posted at the Kundla *thana*, assisted by troops from Lathi and Amreli. The Khumans took shelter in the Gir forest, but Ghelo Khuman, one of the sons of Hado Khuman, strayed behind and was overtaken by the Lathi contingent near Amba. In the skirmish that ensued, Ghelo Khuman was killed. It is said that the descendants of that branch of the Khuman family entertain even to this day such a grudge against the Lathi State that they do not even so much as drink water upon its soil. The Khumans who hid themselves in the Gir forest attacked and pillaged the village of Vanda in 1821. While they were driving away herds of cattle from that village the troops under the *thandar* of Kundla overtook them at Dedan. They had no other alternative but to abandon the cattle and conceal themselves in a neighbouring valley. In this fight Mansur Khuman was shot dead, while his brother was wounded. The Khumans, after this mishap, growing more desperate than ever, began frequently to overrun and lay waste the adjoining territories. They shrank not from inflicting unheard of cruelties upon the unfortunate villagers. At last, in 1822, an English detachment under Captain Barnwell arrived upon the scene of action to put a stop to those misdeeds. He pitched his camp at Amreli and summoned all the neighbouring chiefs with their ministers and also Govindji the Suba of Amreli. Captain Barnwell asked them to dissuade the insurgents from perpetrating such foul deeds. Vajesinhji then went to Kundla to settle the disputes with the Khumans. He there learnt that the Kathis of Jetpur and Chital were secretly lending help to the Khumans of Kundla. Vajesinhji sent his minister, Sevakram, with his assistant Gaurishanker to Captain Barnwell at Amreli to explain to him all the circumstances of the case. The gallant Captain sent for these Kathis but upon instituting strict enquiries, the allegation of the Bhavnagar Thakore was not made out. The British Officer, however, as a safe guard

against their lending such help to the rebels at any future date, took securities from them.

In 1823 the Khumans drove away cattle from Junawadar and fled to the villages of Valardi and Gugrala under Jetpur. Vajesinhji on hearing this, sent an army in pursuit of them. At Valardi Harsur and Golan, the sons of Jogidas Khuman, and his daughter Kamaribai were taken prisoners. The troops then proceeded to Gugrala, where in a scuffle Hado Khuman and Hepo Charan were killed. The army, with the bleeding heads of those insurgents, together with captives of war made a triumphant entry into Kundla and related to Vajesinhji a full account of their expedition. Vajesinhji communicated this news to Captain Barnwell who at once summoned Mulu Vala and other Kathi share-holders of Jetpur to his presence and imprisoned them all. He also ordered the Taluka of Jetpur to be confiscated.

• Shortly after, the share-holders of Jetpur agreed, in accordance with the wishes of the English Government, to capture and surrender all the Kathi rebels to Vajesinhji. Vikamshi and other Vala share-holders of Jetpur, Chela Khachar of Jasdan, Bhan Khachar of Bhadli, Vala Harsur of Bagasra and Danto Kotilo of Dadan guaranteed the fulfilment of the agreement entered into by the recalcitrant Kathis of Jetpur.

Mulu Vala of Jetpur and others, after their release, captured and surrendered to the English Khuman Jogidas and Khuman Hado with their relatives, Viro, Bhan, Bhim, Ram, Pitho and Lakho. Of these Viro and Pitho died in confinement while the rest under the charge of Mulu Vala of Jetpur were handed over to Vajesinhji in the year 1824.

The share-holders of Jetpur who had taken with them the Kathi captives to Bhavnagar returned to their respective villages as no terms of reconciliation were agreed upon to between the rival factions. Vajesinhji took no steps towards redressing the grievances of the Kathi malcontents till the end of that year, whereupon they resumed to outlawry and plundered Jesar a village under Undsarvaiya.

In 1826 they pillaged the villages of Dharuka and Piprali both under the Bhavnagar State. Vajesinhji was then at Sihor. He marched against them directly from that place and overtook the Khumans near Kanad but they stealthily made their way towards Palitana. While proceeding in that direction one of them, Ebhal Khuman, was killed by a

cow-herd named Kanthar. The compact band was dispersed, and the Kathis flying at random assembled together in Gir, their favourite place of retreat. Vajesinhji informed Captain Barnwell of all this, who in reply asked the Thakore to exert his utmost in apprehending the rebellious Khumans assuring him at the same time that all the losses sustained by him would be recouped from their sureties. Jogidas Khuman, at last, exasperated at Vajesinhji's tardiness in coming to terms with him and his Kathi followers made a bold determination to plunder Bhavnagar itself. He raised a large army consisting of brave Kathis from all parts of the province, and summoned to his aid Oghad Vala who had gone into outlawry against the Nawab of Junagarh. They first besought the assistance of Khandhoji, the Thakore of Palitana, which was readily granted. Jogidas Khuman destroyed the village of Nagdhaniba but instead of proceeding further on to Bhavnagar, he turned back. On his way he burnt and laid waste, all the villages that fell within his reach. Vajesinhji pursued him and overtook him near Timana on the banks of the Shetrunji. In the scuffle that ensued many men on both sides were killed while the surviving Kathis fled and concealed themselves in the forest of Gir. In 1827 Jogidas issuing out of his retreat pillaged Haliyad and Dahor. Vajesinhji, who felt much disgusted at the frequent attacks of the Khumans, summoned their ring leaders to Bhavnagar to settle their terms with him (1828). Parmanandas who had succeeded Sevakram, was then at the head of the administration. It was in 1829 that some conciliatory stipulations were entered into between the Thakore and the Khumans. By these terms the Khumans agreed to cede to the Thakore, by way of compensation for the damages sustained by him at their hands, some villages wholly, while others in part only. They also agreed to serve in the army of the Thakore for a period of one year. In the same year Vajesinhji married his sister Bairajba to Rammalji, the Jam of Navanagar. In 1836 Sadul Khasio of Monpur with the help of other outlaws plundered the sacred Jain temples on the top of the Setrunja hill. The Political Agent of Kathiawad sent peremptory orders to Vajesinhji either to arrest the culprits or to pay compensation to the Palitana chief. The Thakore in turn quartered a party of his troops upon Sadul and ordered him to surrender. At that time Champraj Valo of Charkha, who was wandering as an outlaw against Amreli, was a guest of Sadul. Losing his temper at the high-handedness of the men quartered upon his host by the Thakore (*mosul*),

he and Sadul made a sudden attack on the hill-fort of Talaja. Sadul attacked and burnt the village of Konjali. Vajesinhji sent a large army under the command of his eldest son Bhavsinhji and second son Narsinhji who at once repaired to Monpur, demolished the stroughold and burnt the house of Sadul. They returned to Bhavnagar after creaing an out-post at that village. The fiery Sadul was now highly enraged and in 1838 he sacked the villages of Depala and Veral and with the intention of continuing his raids, he took refuge in the Gir forest. In 1840 however, he was arrested in Motha, a village in the *Pargana* of Ud, under the Nawab of Junagarh. He was regularly tried before the Political Agent of Kathiawad, who sentenced him to rigorous imprisonment for ten years and sent him to the Ahmedabad gaol. It was also settled that all his villages, except Jambuda and Chuna which were to be retained in the possession of Sadul's sons Jalam and Hamir, were to be forfeited to the State and that Sadul, if he returned after the expiration of his sentence, was to enjoy the revenues of Monpur during his life. Sadul did return after the expiration of ten years and received the revenues of Monpur during the remainder of his life. Jambuda and Chuna are still in the hands of his descendants.

The Chiefs of Bhavnagar hitherto maintained a mint of their own, where they struck silver and copper coins, but in 1840 Vajesinhji surrendered that privilege to the English on their paying him Rs. 2793-6-3.

Bhavsinhji the eldest son of Vajesinhji died in 1845. He left behind him four sons Akherajji, Jaswantsinhji, Rupsinhji and Devisinhji. On the retirement of Diwan Parmanandas on account of old age in 1847, the helm of the State was entrusted jointly to Gaurishankar Udesankar Oza and Santokram Sevakram Desai. The Thakore in 1849 made the following distribution of his territories among his son, and grandsons. To his son Narsinhji he gave Jhinjhavadar; while of the sons of Bhavsinhji, who had died in 1845, he gave Lakhanka to Akherajji; Timana, Makhania and Pavti to Jaswantsinhji; Veral, Agiadi and Pardi to Rupsinhji; and Ramdhari to the fourth son Devisinhji. In 1852 Vajesinhji died at the advanced age of 72 years and was succeeded by Akherajji the son of the predeceased heir-apparent Bhavsinhji. During his reign Mr. Lang, the Political Agent of Kathiawad in 1854 settled the claim of the Nawab of Junagarh on Kundla for a sum of rupees 9,000, to be annually paid by the Thakore to the Nawab, who was made to relinquish all his right, title and interest in that Mahal.

Akerajji, who was otherwise known by the name of Dajirajji, died in 1854 after reigning for two years only. As he died childless he was succeeded by his brother Jaswantsinhji. Mr. Heddo, the Collector of Ahmedabad, and Mr. Rogers, the Settlement Officer, taking advantage of Dajirajji's dying without issue ordered the Mamlatdar of Gogha to take possession, on behalf of the Paramount Power, of 116 villages owing allegiance to the Chief of Bhavnagar. The Mamlatdar in pursuance of that order seized all the villages, but on the recommendation of Mr. Barr, the then Political Agent of Kathiawad, who was favourably inclined towards Bhavnagar, the Bombay Government recognised the right of Jaswantsinhji, the new Thakore, and restored to him the possession of the forfeited villages. In 1857, however, the Ahmedabad Police preferred certain serious charges against some of the Bhavnagar officials which resulted in the appointment of a Special Assistant to the Political Agent to exercise criminal jurisdiction over those 116 villages.

Jaswantsinhji was blessed with the birth of the heir-apparent, Takhatsinhji, on 6th January 1858. Jaswantsinhji introduced into his State new and improved codes of Civil and Criminal Procedure and effected several reforms in the administration of justice. The British Government conferred upon him, in 1862, in recognition of his good government a *sanad* authorising him and his successors to adopt an heir to the throne in the absence of a natural born heir without the payment of succession duty.

In 1863 Jaswantsinhji married his niece Ba Kunwarba, daughter of the late Akherajji, to Jam shri Vibhaji of Navanagar. The bride, however, did not long survive her wedding.

It was in 1866 that the disputes regarding the criminal and civil jurisdiction over the 116 villages between the Thakore of Bhavnagar and the British Government came to an end. It was resolved that the civil and criminal jurisdiction over the 116 villages in dispute should be restored to the Bhavnagar State. In recognition of the signal services rendered by Gaurishankar and Santokram in regaining the lost powers, the Thakore Saheb granted to the former the village of Tarkha and to the latter the village of Kumbhan.

In 1867 Jaswantsinhji was, for his loyalty to the British Crown, decorated with the insignia of K. C. S. I.

Maharaja Jaswantsinhji died on 11th April 1870 leaving behind him two sons Takhatsinhji and Jawansinhji. He was succeeded by the heir-apparent Takhatsinhji who was then 12 years old.

The Imperial Government resolved to carry on the affairs of the State during the Thakore Sahab's minority by means of Joint Administrators consisting of an English and a Native Officer. For the place of the native administrator the choice of Government fell upon Mr. Gaurishankar Udeshankar, while Mr. E. H. Percival C. S. was appointed to the place of the English officer. The young prince was sent to receive his education at the Rajkot Rajkumar College in 1871. In 1872, Messrs. Percival and Gaurishankar fixed for a period of four years the assessment to be paid by the ryots and introduced the new system of *Khatabandhi*. They also opened the Public Works Department and undertook at an enormous expenditure works of public utility, such as good passable roads, bridges and culverts, useful buildings and resting places for travellers (*Dharma-shalas*). They also reformed the land-revenue system and gave liberal patronage to merchants and traders, which enhanced the material prosperity of the State within a very short period of their administration.

Thakore Sahab Takhatsinhji left the Rajkumar College in 1874 and was subsequently placed under the care of an English tutor Captain (now Colonel) H. L. Nutt. In the same year the Thakore Sahab married the daughters of the reigning chiefs of Gondal, Wadhwan and Wankaner and also the daughter of the Girasia of Talaja. In 1875 was born the heir-apparent, by the Gondal queen, who was named Bhavsinhji. In the same year Mr. Percival went to England on one year's furlough. During his absence Col. J. W. Watson was appointed in his place, but he had to revert to his original post on Mr. Percival's return in 1876.

The Thakore Sahab at the invitation of H. E. the Viceroy and Governor General attended the Imperial Assemblage held at Delhi, on 1st January 1877, to proclaim the assumption by Her Majesty Queen Victoria of the Most Exalted title of the Empress of India. It was on this occasion that the Thakore Sahab's salute was increased from 11 to 15 guns as a mark of personal distinction. He was also presented with a Royal flag. The Thakore Sahab was accompanied by his faithful minister, Mr. Gaurishankar Udeshankar, upon whom in token of his meritorious services was bestowed the title of C.S.I. The Thakore Sahab after visiting several principal places of interest in Northern India returned to Bhavnagar. In February 1877

Col. Watson was again appointed in the place of Mr. E. H. Percival. The Thakore Saheb who had by that time made a fair progress in his English and Vernacular studies, was from the month of March joined with Colonel Watson in the administration to obtain some acquaintance with the management of State affairs. It was in April of 1878 that the Thakore Saheb was entrusted with the sole and independent management of his dominions. Immediately after, Mr. Gaurishankar on account of old age retired on a well merited full pension and Mr. Samaldas Parmananddas* was appointed Diwan. Takhatsinhji in remembrance of his happy College days, extended the Rajkumar College building at Rajkot by adding to it a new wing, at an expense of a *lakh* of rupees. He also contributed a princely sum of a *lakh* and a quarter towards the erection of a bridge on the river Aji at Rajkot. He attended the Darbar held at Rajkot on 19th August 1879 on the occasion of opening the new bridge for public use. The inauguration ceremony of the new line of Railway from Bhavnagar to Wadhwan and Dhola to Dhoraji constructed at the expense of the Chiefs of Bhavnagar and Gondal was performed at Bhavnagar by H. E. Sir James Fergusson, the Governor of Bombay, on 18th December 1880. Persons travelling between Bhavnagar and Surat had to expose themselves to the perils of a boisterous sea and several lives were lost by the occasional capsizement of boats plying between those two sea-ports. The Thakore Saheb with a view to avoid those difficulties got a large and strong steamer specially built in England at an enormous expense of 5 *lakhs* of rupees.

In 1881 the Thakore Saheb sent his younger brother Jawansinhji, who had completed his course of studies at Rajkot, to England for higher education. He, however, returned in 1882 and after two years of useful career the promising youth was unfortunately cut off in the prime of his life in 1884.

On the 7th January 1882 Colonel L. C. Barton, the Political Agent of Kathiawad, invested the Thakore Saheb with the Insignia of the Knight

* After his death in 1883 the Diwangiri was given to his son Mr. Vithaldas. The sole power which the Diwan till then exercised was however curtailed by the organisation of a new council composed of the Diwan, Mr. B. Proctor Sims, Public works Minister, Mr. M. M. Bhavnagari C. I. E. M. P. Judicial Councillor and Mr. Dosabhai Framji Kadaka, C. S. I. Finance Minister. The late Mr. Samaldas was held in such a high esteem by the Durbar that an Arts college was established at Bhavnagar and named after him.

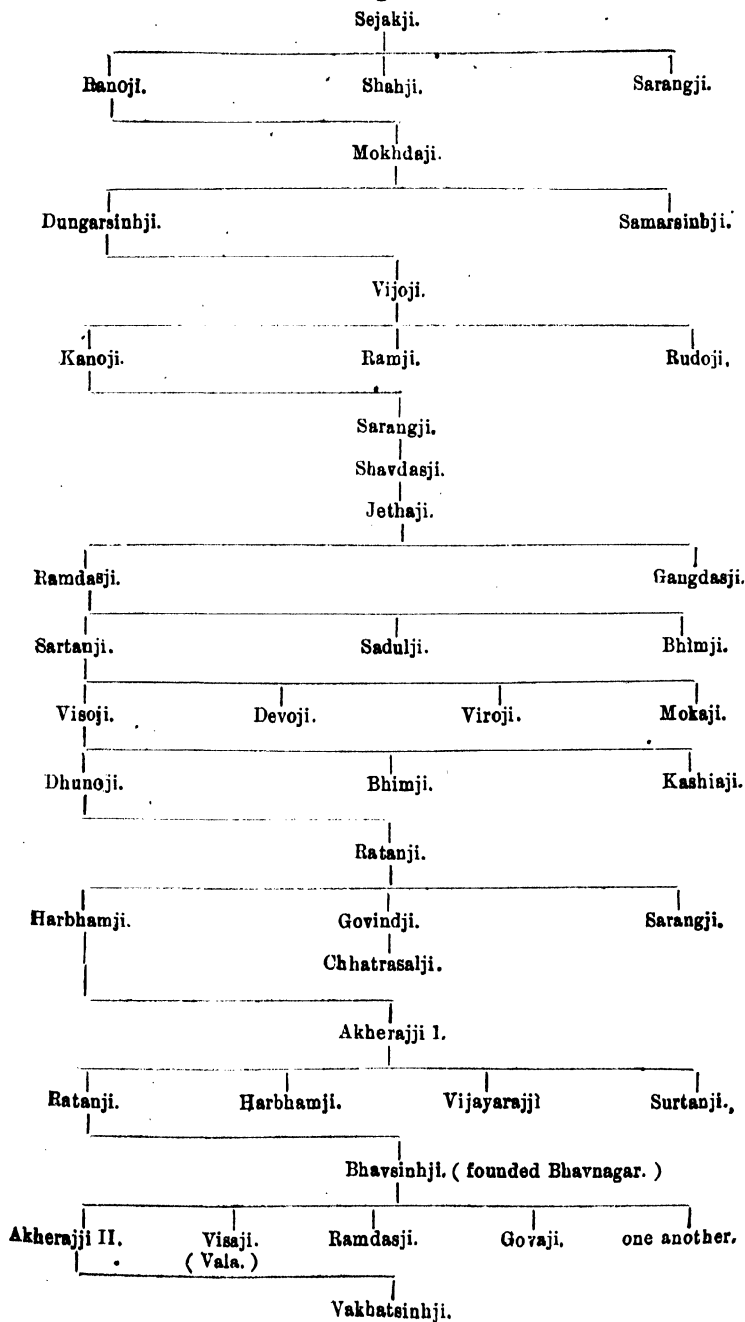
Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India in a grand Darbar held at Rajkot, in the presence of the Nawab of Junagarh, the Jam of Navanagar, the Raj of Dhrangadra, the Thakores of Morvi, Limbdi, Wadhwan, and Rajkot, and other petty chiefs and high Government Officials both European and Native. H. E. Sir James Fergusson was entrusted with the task of performing that interesting ceremony but he was by a dire stroke of destiny compelled to return to Bombay from Kutch owing to the sudden and sad demise of Her Excellency, Lady Fergusson who fell a victim to cholera. It was owing to this mishap that the function was entrusted to Col. Barton. The Thakore Saheb was further ennobled with the title of G. C. S. I. in 1886 and was honored with the personal title of Maharaja.

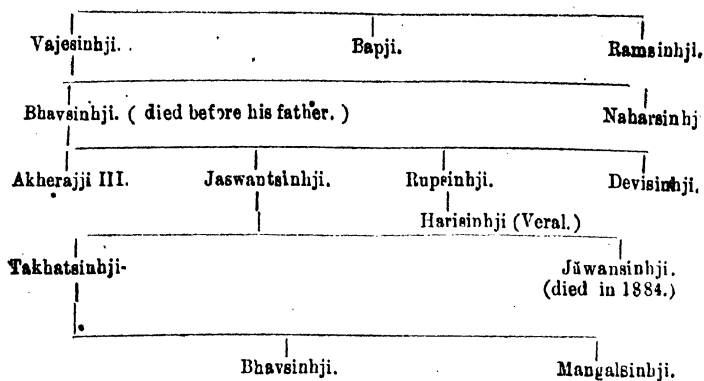
H. H. Sir Takhtsinhji G. C. S. I., afterwards went on a tour to Europe where he was received with royal welcome. The University of Cambridge conferred on him the honorary degree of LL. D. After his return from Europe, he introduced further important reforms in his State. He was, however, snatched away by the cruel hand of Death in the prime of his youth, on 25th January 1896, amid the profound grief of his friends and subjects. He leaves behind him two sons Bhavsinhji, born of the Gondal princess and Mangalsinhji of the Wadhwan Rani. The elder, Bhavsinhji, was born in April 1875, and was installed on the *gadi* by Col. Hancock, the Political Agent of Kathiawad, in February last. The young prince has received liberal education at the Rajkumar College and promises to turn out a worthy successor of a worthy father.

Thakore Saheb Bhavsinhji is a first class Chief in Kathiawad and enjoys full civil and criminal powers within his State. Though the late Maharaja enjoyed a salute of 15 guns as a personal distinction, the State is entitled to a salute of 11 guns.



Genealogical tree.





(The present Thakore Saheb.)

Residence.—Bhavnagar, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.



DHRANGADRA.

Area.—1,156 sq. miles. Population.—103,754.

Revenue.—7,80,000 rupees.

The State of Dhrangadra is bounded on the north by the *Runn* of Kutch; on the east by Bajana and Lakhtar; on the south by the territories of Vankaner and Lakhtar; and on the west by the Native State of Morvi and the Malia Taluka.

The Raj Saheb of Dhrangadra derives his origin from the immortal Markand Rishi and is a Jhala Rajput of the Makwana tribe belonging to the solar race. Vehiyas Makwano was the king of Kirantigarh near Nagar Parkar. He was succeeded by Kesar who invaded the territory of Hamir Sumro, then reigning in Sindh. He succeeded in carrying off 525 horses from the enemy's country which he distributed among the Brahmans and the Bhats on the thirteenth day after his father's death. After a few days' respite Kesar Makwana once more invaded Sindh and drove away 700 camels of Hamir Sumro grazing on the banks of the Meni. Once it so happened that on the Dasera holiday, the wives and daughters of Hamir were driving to their garden while Kesar fell upon them and carried them away to Kirantigarh. Hamir sent him a word to respectfully send back these ladies loaded with presents as a father would do while sending his daughters to their husbands' home. Kesar retorted in anger that these ladies had already become his wives and that they would not be sent back to Sindh. At last Hamir Sumro marched upon Kirantigarh and a fierce battle ensued. Kesar with his brave followers fell in the contest and the stronghold of Kirantigarh was destroyed. On the death of Kesar and the destruction of his capital, his three sons Harpal, Vijaypal and Santaji made their escape to Gujarat. Harpal took refuge at the court of his cousin Karan, the Solanki chief of Anhilwad, while Vijaypal and Santaji took shelter with other chiefs. The descendants of Vijaypal are at present the chiefs of Hol in Mahi Kantha, while those of Santaji are now the Talukdars of Katosan in the same Agency.

Harpal received a cordial welcome at the hands of the king of Gujarat. According to a bardic tradition Fula Devi, the favourite wife of Karan Solanki, was suffering from the visitations of an evil-spirit, named Babro. Harpal boldly volunteered to fight with the devil and one night in a hard-fought struggle he succeeded in subduing Babro. He exacted a promise from the evil spirit that he would no longer disturb the inhabitants of Patan,

that he would be ready at Harpal's bidding to help him whenever he was in a difficulty and that he would implicitly obey all his orders. Harpal grew hungry on account of the exhaustion brought on by fighting so fiercely with Babro. He took with him two goats and went to the burning ground. Roasting them in a funeral pyre he began to devour them. The female deity presiding over the cremation-ground, stretched out her hand asking for a slice out of Harpal's hearty meal. The gallant Makwano gave her a leg of mutton which the deity gobbled up in a moment. She again stretched out her hand but as Harpal had nothing left to give her, he cut open his own thigh and appeased her by a lump of human flesh. The goddess was exceedingly delighted at the Rajput's boldness and self-sacrifice and promised to give him whatever he demanded. Harpal expressed his desire to marry her whereupon the deity bound by her promise threw in her own lot with that of the mortal. So runs the legend though history records that this deity was none else but a Solanki princess of Gujarat.

Next day Karan overjoyed at his wife's deliverance held a grand Darbar and praised the exploits of Harpal. The Raja promised to grant him in return for his signal service anything that he demanded. Harpal replied that he would be perfectly satisfied if His Highness granted him only as many villages as he could bind garlands round in one single night. Karan pleased with Harpal's moderate demand readily complied with his request. The Makwano returned home and related the whole story to his supernatural wife. She and the Babro Bhut (devil) undertook the work and during the course of the night bound garlands upon the gates of 2300 villages. The first festoon was hung on the gates of Patdi and the last on those of Digdi. Next morning Karan sent his courtiers on backs of fleet camels to ascertain the number of villages round which Harpal had bound garlands during the previous night. They returned by the evening of the same day and informed Karan that Harpal had fastened garlands round the gates of no less than 2300 villages. The King of Gujarat bound by his promise handed over these villages to Harpal. As Patdi was the first place round which the festoon was hung he made it his principal seat of government. Karan felt dismayed at the loss of so many villages, but his wife Fula Devi who had always been addressed by Harpal as his sister went to her valiant brother before his final departure for Patdi. Harpal, seeing Fula Devi approaching him said ' Well sister ! what brings you here.' She replied ' Brother I have come to ask of you my trousseau ' Harpal gave her 500 villages in Bhal as her pin-money.

Harpal had by his divine queen three sons; Sodho, Mangu, Shekhro and a daughter named Uma Devi. These four children were once playing in the courtyard of their palace at Patdi. An elephant getting wild began to run amuck in the town. It was on the point of killing these four children when their mother extended her hand and saved them by seizing them all in her grasp. From that date the three boys and their descendants assumed the cognomen of 'Jhala' (seized). The Jhala Rajputs of to-day are the descendants of these three brothers.

Harpal's wife Shakti (goddess) died on Chaitra Vad 13th Samwat 1171 (corresponding with 6th April 1115) after which Harpal married Raj Kunwarba, the daughter of the Sodha chief of Thar Parkar. By her he had nine sons, Khawalji (who married a Kathi lady and became the progenitor of the Kathis of the Khawad branch) Khodaji, Joguji, Ranoji, Bapuji, (whose descendants embraced Islamism and are called Molesalams. Among his descendants are the Makwana Mussalman holders of Mandwa, from which place they have come to be the Talukdars of Punadra, Khadal, Dabha, and Ramas in Mahi Kantha) Balwant, Lonakji, Devaji and Vithalji. After the death of Harpal in 1130 Sodhoji, born of the Shakti queen and the eldest of his twelve sons, succeeded him on the throne of Patdi. The appanage of Jambu was conferred upon Mangu whose descendants are now reigning at Limbdi, while to Shekhro was granted the *Jagir* of Sachana and Chor Vadodra and his descendants are now the Wanta-holders of Chor Vadodra and other estates. The descendants of Harpal by his Shakti wife came to be known as Jhalas, while those by his Sodhi wife are this day known by the name of Makwanas.

Sodhoji reigned for thirty years and died in 1160. He was succeeded by Durjansal who, dying in 1185, was succeeded by Jhakaldevji, who reigned till 1210. Then came to the throne Arjunsinhji who in 1240 was succeeded by Devrajji who died in 1265. He was succeeded by Prince Dudoji who died in 1280. Next to him came Sursinhji who reigned till 1305. He was succeeded by his son Santalji who founded in North Gujarat the village of Santalpur which is now in the hands of Jadeja Rajputs under the Palanpur Agency. This town was given in appanage to his son Surajmalji who was driven out by Lunoji. Surajmalji was slain whereupon Santalji with the help of the Mussalmans expelled Lunoji Vaghela from Sardhar. Santalji, however, was killed in the struggle (1325). He was succeeded by his son Vijaypalji on the throne

of Patdi. He ruled only for a year and dying in 1326 was succeeded by his eldest son Meghrajji. The *Jagirs* of Goria, Dekawada, Kotka, and Vanswa were respectively bestowed upon the other sons Akherajji, Sarangji, Sagramji, and Dudoji.

Meghrajji died in 1331 also leaving behind him five sons, of whom the eldest Padamsinhji succeeded his father while to Kesarji, Bhimji, Meghji, and Jemalji, were granted the appanages of Jarwalu, Nagwada, Karathal, and Jakhwada. Padamsinhji dying in 1340 was succeeded by his son Udesinhji. He reigned till 1352. He had two sons Prithirajji and Vegadji, the former of whom relinquished his claim to the Patdi throne in favour of his younger brother Vegadji, but reserved to himself several villages in the *pargana* of Thala. His descendants are even now in possession of the Thala Wanta.

Vegadji died in 1368. He had five sons of whom the eldest Ramsinhji succeeded him. To the others Melakji, Khengarji, Malandevji, and Bhanji were given the *Jagirs* of Kumarkhan Babroli, Bhadakwa, and Kukwa. Ramsinhji died in 1385 leaving behind him six sons, of whom the eldest Virsinhji ascended the throne. Kesarji, Bhojrajji, Sensmalji, Narayanji, and Lakhaji, received the appanages of Goriya Kalam, Nagwada, Gobal and Sitapur respectively. Virsinhji died in 1392. He had also six sons, of whom the eldest Rammalji, succeeded to the throne. Sankheshwar was given to Ramsinhji, Karela to Kaloji, Katuda to Karamsinh, Kantrodi to Pratapsinh, while Goriawad was granted to the last Punjaji. Rammalji died in 1408 leaving behind him three sons. The eldest Satarsalji succeeded his father while Dasada, Padla, and Panchasar were given in appanage to his second son Sodmalji and Jhinjuwada was granted to Vanvirji.

Satarsalji was a powerful monarch. He twice rose against Ahmadshah, the king of Gujarat. He was, however, compelled to transfer his seat of government from Patdi to Mandal. He died in 1420 leaving behind him a large family consisting of 12 sons. The eldest Jetsinhji ascended the throne, the second* Raghavdevji constructed a reservoir called 'Rai' near Vithalgarh. Alak was given to Lakhaji and Dharia to Dudoji. Pratapsinhji

* Raghavdevji took up service under Hushang Gori, the Sultan of Malwa. He was given in *Jagir* the territory round Rappur which is known by the name of Jhalawad in Malwa. The descendants of Raghavdevji are this day reigning at Narvar near Ujjain. One of his sons Sursinhji had settled in Vithalgarh. His descendants held the watas of Dedadra and Alidra.

died childless. Karmad was granted to Jemalji; while nothing is known about his other sons Meghji, Kanoji Gajanji, Sarangji, Virsinhji and Deshalji. Ahmadshah I., the Mahomedan king of Gujarat, invaded Mandal on many an occasion and compelled Jetsinhji to change his metropolis from Mandal to Kuwa. He died in 1441 leaving behind him six sons of whom the eldest Vanvirji succeeded him to the throne. Chaniel was given to Jagmalji, Savadun and Adariana to Muluji and Lilapur to Pachanji. Megharajji, and Shamji both died while they were very young. Vanvirji died in 1460. He had also six sons of whom Bhimsinhji ascended the throne. Ajaji defeated Alsivala and wrested from him Ajmere and other villages. Some of his decendants hold lands in Pipalia and other villages under Vankaner, while others have taken up their residence in the territory of Morvi. Rainsinhji was given the *Jagir* of Koiba, while the appanages of Kadiyana and Ingrodi were granted to Pratapsinhji and Punjaji. The sixth Lakhaji died while he was young. Bhimsinhji dying in 1469 was succeeded by his only son Vaghoji. Khalifkhan, the Suba of Sorath, who ascended the throne of Gujarat under the title of Muzaffar Shah II., was Vaghoji's contemporary. When he held the Subagiri of Sorath, Vaghoji rebelled against him. Khalifkhan marched against him and a bloody battle took place near Sayadpur. The Moslem Suba was defeated by the brave Rajput. This success, however, brought upon him and his trusty comrades speedy destruction. Mahmud Begara, the celebrated king of Gujarat hearing the Suba's defeat, marched at the head of a formidable army and invaded Kuwa* from behind. Vaghoji and his troops sallying out of the hill-fort, fell upon the Mussalman army. Before issuing out of the citadel, Vaghoji told the guards of his harem to keep a constant eye upon the war standards and instructed his wives that they should consider him defeated and dead as soon as they beheld the banners lowered down. The Ranis were also advised to destroy themselves in flames on the happening of such contingency. A fierce battle ensued between the Rajputs and the Moslems in which the Rajput flag-bearers borne down with fatigue lowered their flags to take rest. The guards of the Chief's seraglio, seeing this, at once informed the ladies that their lord Vaghoji had fallen in the field. No sooner did they hear this than they fell into a well and died. While the contest was

* Kuwa was in days of old known by the name of Kankavati, but as the wives of Vaghoji, the great-grand-son of Jetsinhji, killed themselves by falling into a well, it obtained the significant name of Kuwa (well).

still going on with unabated fury, Vaghoji returned for a short time to his palace to see how matters stood there, but seeing that his wives had all perished, he again went to the battle-field with redoubled vigour. He had now become desperate and courting death, he fell upon the Moslem troops. After dealing destruction in the enemy's ranks, Vaghoji and his brave followers slept an eternal sleep on the field of Kuwa and the citadel was eventually reduced by the victors in 1486. Hearing the death of Vaghoji, Saheb Kunwarba, the daughter of the Solanki Chief of Kalarigarh, immolated herself on a funeral pile as a Suttée, although she was not married to Vaghoji but only betrothed to him. So many brave Rajputs lost their lives in the battle of Kuwa that even to-day the phrase '*Kuwa no ker*' (disaster of Kuwa) has become proverbial for a great misfortune. Vaghoji had twelve sons: Nathoji, Mepji, Sagramji, Jodhaji, Ajoji, Ramsinhji, Viramdevji, Rajodharji, Lakhaji, Sultanji, Vajerajji and Jagmalji. Of these the first six had fallen in the battle of Kuwa, while the seventh Viramdevji had been killed while fighting against the Mussalman *Thundar* of Sami Muppur. The remaining five saved themselves by flying to the adjacent jungle. Once upon a time while Rajodharji was hunting in the forest, he beheld a hare issuing out of a thicket and presenting a bold front to his horse. The prince stood astounded at the rabbit's boldness and taking a fancy to that place founded on the spot a village called Halwad, on Maha Vad 13th Samwat 1544 (corresponding with 1488 A. D.) He made it his seat of government and commenced conquering the adjacent territories. Rajodharji conferred upon his brothers Lakhaji, Sultanji, Vajerajji and Jagmalji, the *Jagirs* of Kadi, Narichana, Nana Ankewalia, Ghantila and Dhulkot respectively.

Rajodharji died in the year 1500. He had three sons Ajoji, Sajoji, and Ranoji and one daughter. The mother of the first two was the daughter of the Rao of Idar, while the mother of Ranoji was the daughter of Lakhdhirji, the Parmar chief of Muli. When Rajodharji was lying on his death-bed, Lakhdhirji with his men repaired to Halwad, under the pretext of enquiring after the Raj. Saheb's health, though with the real intention of placing his daughter's son Ranoji on the throne. He succeeded in winning over the courtiers of Halwad to his side. When the two elder sons went to the burning ground with the funeral cortege, Lakhdhirji installed Ranoji on the *gadi* and proclaimed him the Raj of Halwad (1500). Ajoji and Sajoji who were taken by surprise, endeavoured their utmost

to obtain an entrance into the hill-fort but without the least success. At last after two months of hard but fruitless struggle the two brothers went to Ahmedabad and implored the assistance of Mahmud Begara, then reigning over Gujarat. Lakhdirji, however, anticipated them by paying to the monarch a handsome sum of 2 *lacs* of rupees. The disappointed brothers then proceeded to their maternal home at Idar. They did not stay there for a long time, but proceeding to Jodhpur, where they met with a very cold reception they repaired to Chitod and took up service under the Rana of Mewad. Sang conferred upon them large *Jagirs* and their descendants even to the present day enjoy the estates of Sadri, Delwada and Gagunda in Mewad.*

Ranoji was killed by Malik Bakhan of Dasada in 1523. He left behind him three sons of whom the eldest Mansinhji succeeded him to the throne. Mansinhji, to avenge the death of his father, invaded Dasada and slew the son of Malik Bakhan. Bahadurshah, the king of Gujarat, sent an army under Khan Khanan against Mansinhji. The commander of the Moslem troops succeeded in driving Mansinhji out of Halwad. The fugitive chief sought shelter with Khengarji, the Rao of Kutch. Halwad, Mandal, and Virangam which were subject to Mansinhji's authority were confiscated and annexed to the Shah's dominions.

Raj Mansinhji with his two brothers Adaji and Varsaji went into outlawry against the Mussalman Emperor and laid waste the whole territory as far as Virangam. One of the sisters of the step-mother of Mansinhji, a daughter of the king of Bikaner, who was married to king Bahadurshah, sent a word to Mansinhji saying that she would exert her influence with the Sultan in regaining for him his lost principality if he gave up outlawry and surrendered himself to the Emperor. Once Bahadurshah, while going from Ahmedabad to Sorath, lay encamped on the road. One night while the Emperor was taking his repose in his tent, Mansinhji with arms in his hands stealthily slipped into it. The Sultan who was sleeping there all alone woke up and asked who it was that was lurking in the tent. Mansinhji answered 'I am the king of Jhalawad. I have come here to

* Mansinhji, the son of Ajoji, rendered such a yeoman service to Rana Pratapsinhji in the celebrated battle of Haldighat that he received from the Rana certain privileges which had never before been conferred on any of the feudatory chiefs. No chief save the Jhal Raja of Sadri is entitled to proceed to the palace of the Rana with kettle drum and tom-toms beating before him. This is considered in Mewad to be the highest distinction that can be conferred upon a feudatory chief.

regain my lost throne.' Saying this he placed at the Sultan's feet his shield, sword and dagger and knelt before him in token of submission. The Sultan was reconciled and restored to him all his territories except Mandal and Viramgam.

Raj Mansinhji died in 1564. He was succeeded by Raysinhji the eldest of his three sons. He bestowed upon his brother Ramsinhji the villages of Jiva, Chamamd and Jhanjhera, while to his youngest brother Gowindji he gave the villages of Dervala, Vadhru and Tithwa. Raysinhji defeated and subdued all the neighbouring petty chiefs. Once he happened to go to his kinsman Jasoji, the chief of Dhrol. While they were playing at *choput*, the sound of a kettle drum fell upon their ears. Jasoji was much incensed and asked his attendants to enquire who the person was that dared beat his kettle drum within the precincts of Dhrol. He was informed that a cavalcade of Gosains was passing that way under the leadership of Makan Bharthi on a pilgrimage to Hingalaj Mata. Jasoji seemed satisfied but his guest Raysinhji asked him as to what he would have done if some potentate instead of an ascetic had sounded his drum in the vicinity of Dhrol. Jasoji replied that he would have got the drum torn off. The Raj bore this in mind and shortly after his return to Halwad, he marched against Dhrol at the head of a large army. He sounded his drum on the very outskirts of Dhrol. Jasoji highly inflamed at the sound of the drum went out with his army to join battle with the invading host. A fierce contest ensued in which Jasoji was slain and Raysinhji returned to Halwad with flying colours.

While dying Jasoji spoke to a Charan to convey this intelligence to his intimate friend, Sahebji, a brother of Rao Khengarji, who was then living with his brother at Bhuj. The Charan went to Bhuj and informed Sahebji of what had happened. He thereupon marched upon Halwad at the head of a large army. The contending armies met near Malia where a bloody battle took place in which Sahebji was killed and Raysinhji severely wounded. The religious cavalcade that had caused so much mischief by beating the drum on the outskirts of Dhrol learnt all this after its return from the pilgrimage. The mendicants under Makan Bharthi went to Halwad and taking Raysinhji prisoner, sent him away to Emperor Akbar, who was then reigning at Delhi. Halwad continued to be a possession of Delhi for two years. When Akbar appointed Khan Khanan as the Suba of Gujarat, Raysinhji was allowed at his request to

accompany the new Suba to the Province entrusted to his care. His territory was, after some time, restored to him under an Imperial mandate. Though he succeeded in regaining his lost throne, he continued warring with his neighbours who became his bitterest enemies. In a contest with the insurgent chiefs, he was suddenly attacked by a class of Girasias called the Dedas and killed near Ghantila in 1584.

Raj Raysinhji was succeeded by Chandrasinhji. He was married to the daughter of Sursinhji, the Maharaja of Jodhpur; while he gave his sister in marriage to Jasaji, the Jam of Navanagar. Once while this Jhala queen was playing at chess with her lord, the Jam captured her knight (mare). The Rani in anger retorted 'It is no great thing for you to seize a mare from me, a woman, but if you seize a mare from my brother, you would justify your appellation of Jam.' Jasaji bore this insolent retort in mind and treacherously caused Chandrasinhji to be made a prisoner and brought to Navanagar. One Shankardas, a Nagar by caste, intervened in favour of Chandrasinhji and obtaining his release, sent him back to his capital. The Jhala Rani was not a woman to quietly brook the insult. Stung to the quick by the indignity thus offered to her brother, she poisoned her husband, Jam Jasaji, in 1624.

Raj Chandrasinhji had six sons. Prithirajji, Ashkaranji, Amarsinhji, Abhayasinhji, Ramsinhji and Ranoji. Once Adoji, the Girasia of Shiyani, had pitched his tent on the outskirts of Halwad whither he had escaped beyond the reach of the Mussalman Suba of Ahmedabad with whom he had quarrelled. A dispute arose between him and Prithirajji, the heir-apparent, on a very trifling matter. The prince made preparations to fall upon his tent and plunder it. Raj Chandrasinhji meanwhile accidentally came upon the spot and was highly displeased at his son's ungallant conduct. He told his son that it would look quite un-Kshatriyalike to plunder one who was lying there under his protection. This sort of admonition was too much for Prithirajji to bear patiently and he at once repaired to Wadhwan which was given to him for maintaining his high position as the heir-apparent of Jhalawad. He began sacking the adjacent villages. He also plundered the Imperial Treasure conveyed from Junagarh to Ahmedabad. The Suba of Ahmedabad issued a proclamation for his arrest offering a handsome reward to any one who captured the culprit. He also sent an army consisting of 2000 men against

him to Wadhwan. The officer commanding the troops, treacherously seized Prithirajji and carried him away to Ahmedabad.

Raj Chandrasinhji died in 1628. Prithirajji the heir-apparent was, as mentioned above, absent from Halwad, whereupon his younger brother Ashkaranji seized the throne, setting aside the claims of Sultanji and Rajoji the sons of Prithirajji. Ashkaranji was, in 1634, murdered by his brother Amarsinhji who usurped the throne of Halwad. The late Raj Chandrasinhji had, besides Prithirajji, Ashkaranji and Amarsinhji, three other sons Abhayasinhji, Ramsinhji, and Ranoji. Of these, Abhayasinhji received Lakhtar, Ramsinhji got Mathak, while to Ranoji was granted Kuda. The sons of Prithirajji, who still continued to be a prisoner in the hands of the Mussalman Suba, established independent principalities. The eldest Sultanji, who was superseded at Halwad by his uncle Ashkaranji, set up a new government at Wankaner ; while his younger brother Rajoji founded the kingdom of Wadhwan. Their descendants are to this day reigning at Wankaner and Wadhwan respectively.

Raj Amarsinhji died in 1645 and was succeeded by Meghrajji, who was a very pious and kind-hearted prince. He reigned for 16 years and died in 1661. After his death Gajsinhji ascended the throne. Raj Gajsinhji had three sons Chandrasinhji, Jaswantsinhji and Jaghabhai. Of these, Chandrasinhji and his son Ashkaranji were killed by a Charan during the life-time of Gajsinhji ; after whose death in 1673 Jaswantsinhji succeeded to the throne. Chandrasinhji had a daughter named Jhinhuba, who was married to Ajitsinhji the son of Jaswantsinhji, the Maharaja of Jodhpur, Maharaja Jaswantsinhji of Jodhpur, who was then appointed Suba of Gujarat, invaded the territory of Raj Jaswantsinhji at the instance of his daughter-in-law who was as mentioned above the daughter of Chandrasinhji. The Raj Saheb fled from Halwad to Varahir and the Suba granted his territory in appanage to Jaffar Alikhan. The Babi managed the affairs of the State for six years, when he was driven out by Raj Chandrasinhji of Wankaner. Halwad continued to be under the Raj of Wankaner for three years, when in 1682-83 Raj Jaswantsinhji, obtaining a grant from the Emperor, reconquered it from the Raj of Wankaner.

When Ajitsinhji of Jodhpur was appointed Suba of Gujarat by the Imperial court in 1715, he marched upon Halwad and levied tribute from Raj Jaswantsinhji. He then went to Dwarka and Navanagar, but soon returning to Halwad he opened a heavy bombardment against its walls. He was however

soon compelled to go back to Ahmedabad. Jhinhuba the daughter of Chandrasinhji and the wife of Maharaja Ajitsinhji, entertained a grave suspicion that her father and brother were murdered by the Charan at the instigation of Raj Jaswantsinhji. The Jodhpur queen had therefore a strong grudge against the Raj of Halwad. She despatched five assassins from Jodhpur who for several days remained concealed at Halwad. Once while Jaswantsinhji was passing along the road in a palanquin, the hired assassins fell upon him and killed him in 1718.

Jaswantsinhji left behind him four sons of whom the eldest Pratapsinhji succeeded to the throne. To Mansinhji, Meghrajji and Abhabhai were granted the appanages of Malwan, Malaniyad and Ajal, Dhawanu and Velanu respectively. In the reign of Pratapsinhji, Jam Raysinhji of Nawanagar was murdered by his brother Hardholji who usurped the throne. Tamachi, the infant son of the murdered Jam, was stealthily carried to Bhuj by one of the female attendants and placed under the protection of Ratnajiba the infant's aunt. Raj Pratapsinhji of Halwad, who was the maternal uncle of Tamachi, gave his daughter in marriage to Sher Bulandkhan, the Suba of Gujarat, and his niece to Babi Salabat Mahmud Khan with the object of reinstating his nephew, Tamachi, on the Nawanagar *gadi*. With the help of these two Moslem chiefs, he succeeded in wresting the throne of Nawanagar from the usurper and installing his nephew Tamachi on the *gadi* (1727).

Raj Pratapsinhji died in 1730 leaving behind him three sons. The eldest Raysinhji succeeded him, while the appanages of Bawli, Manekwada, and Vegad, were granted to the two other sons Kalabhai and Vajobhai respectively. It was Raj Raysinhji who in the first year of his reign caused the fort of Dhrangadra to be built and made it his temporary residence. It was his intention to decrease the extent of the *Jagirs* conferred upon his Bhayads and to bestow upon his sons appanages yielding only so much revenue as would not prove a heavy drain upon the resources of the State. He had six sons: Gajsinhji, Sensabhai, Ajabhai, Kaslabhai, Nathubhai, and Ashabhai. The eldest, Gajsinhji, instigated the rest to betake themselves to outlawry against their father under the leadership of the second son Sensabhai. When Raysinhji came to understand that the whole plot was set on foot at the instigation of the heir-apparent, he gave up his determination of conferring on his sons only paltry *Jagirs*. He was reconciled to his sons who were

summoned to his presence and granted rich appanages. Sensabhai was already given Meroji, Mathak and other villages. He had become an outlaw relinquishing his claim to Mathak, but was subsequently given Narichana. Afterwards Sensabhai, with the help of his elder brother Gajsinhji, conquered Sayla from the Khawad Kathis and set up an independent government there. The *Jagirs* of Bhalgamdun and Shapkarun were bestowed upon Ajabhai, while Kaslabhai received Dhanalu and Charadwa, Nathubhai and Ashabhai got Sara and Thala respectively; the last two princes dying childless, their estates subsequently reverted to the State by way of escheat.

Raj Raysinhji died in 1745. He was succeeded by his eldest son Gaj-Sinhji. The new Raj was married to Jijiba and had several sons, of whom Jaswantsinhji was the eldest. Seeing that Gajsinhji was a mere nonentity in the hands of his brother Sensabhai of Sayla, she for the greater part of the year resided at Varsoda with her sons. Sensabhai eventually began collecting an army at Sayla with a view to march upon Halwad and depose Gajsinhji. The Raj, upon hearing this, escaped to Bawli and took refuge with Kalabhai. The Rana of Bawli gave him a hearty support and with an army supplied by him Gajsinhji proceeded to Halwad. Sensabhai then seized Dhrangadra and made preparations for a combat. Jijiba when she came to know of all this at Varsoda, came upon the scene of action with her eldest son Jaswantsinhji. She succeeded in gaining over the Kasbatis of Dholka and Viramgam to her side and they all marched upon Dhrangadra to oust Sensabhai from that stronghold. They were, however, unsuccessful. At last when Bhagvantrao, one of the Peshwa's generals, arrived in Jhalawad to levy tribute, Jijiba applied to him for help. It was readily granted and with the assistance of the Maratha chief as well of Babi Kamal-ud-din Khan *alias* Jawan Mardkhan II, the Nawab of Radhanpur, Jijiba recovered possession of Dhrangadra from its usurper Sensabhai. After the capture of Dhrangadra, she satisfied Bhagvantrao by paying him a heavy tribute and a large sum in *Nazarana*. Jijiba carried on the affairs at Dhrangadra in the name of her minor son Jaswantsinhji as long as Gajsinhji was reigning at Halwad. Raj Gajsinhji died in 1782. He was succeeded by Jaswantsinhji who made Dhrangadra the principal seat of government. The new Raj conferred upon his brothers the following appanages. To Dajibhai he gave Isanpur and Kadiana; Rawaji was given a moiety of Rasangpur; Dadholiun was given to Desalji whose mother was the daughter of the Thakore of Bhavnagar; while to

Jethiji who was the son of the daughter of the Chudasama Thakore of Gamph was granted Dighdiun. The remaining moiety of Ransangpur was conferred upon Vaghji, while Ghanad was given to Dadaji whose mother was the daughter of Adesinh the chief of Bhadarwa. Raj Jaswantsinhji had also a sister named Achhuba, who was married to Jam Jasaji of Nawanagar.

Raj Jaswantsinhji died in 1801. He had eight sons, of whom the eldest Raysinhji ascended the throne. He granted Ransangpur to Sangaji and Jaysinhji, Wavadi to Adabhai and Surabhai and Rampur to Sangabhai and Ranabhai. The eighth brother whose name was Kakabhai had died during his father's life-time. Jaswantsinhji had also two daughters named Taj Kunwarba and Rupaliba. Of these the first was married to the Maharaja of Jeypur, while the latter was married to Rana Bhimsinhji of Udepur in Mewad.

Raj Raysinhji dying in 1804 was succeeded by Amarsinhji, the eldest of his three sons. The appanages of Rawaliavadar and Soldi were granted to Jijibhai and Vajabhai but both of them dying without issue their *Jagirs* were eventually annexed to the State. In his reign Colonel Walker, the Resident of Baroda, accompanied by Diwan Babaji Appaji arrived in Kathiawad to fix the amount of tributes payable by the different chiefs of the province to H. H. the Gaikwad. These amounts were finally determined by the years 1807-8. Owing to the constant forays by the Jats, Miyanas and other plundering tribes, as also by the feuds with the chief of Wadhwan, the territory of Dhrangadra had well nigh been laid waste. In 1820, however, the British Agency was established in Kathiawad and it was through the very opportune interference of the Paramount Power that the province began to regain its lost prosperity. In 1820-21 the northern territory of Dhrangadra was overrun by the Kolis residing in Kutch and the Sindhis. Amarsinhji placed detachment of troops in those parts and lodged a complaint before the Political Agent who wrote to Desalji the Rao of Kutch to keep his subjects under proper control. The Rao failing to put a stop to these raids, the English Government placed a detachment of European troops near the village of Ghantila on the outskirts of both Dhrangadra and Morvi. The Imperial Government also levied from the Rao of Kutch a sum of 2 *laks* of rupees by way of compensation and distributed the sum among those who had principally suffered from these raids.

Raj Amarsinhji died in 1843. He left behind him two sons and six daughters. Ranmalsinhji, the elder of the two, succeeded to the throne : while Charadwa was granted to the younger Laghubha. Of the six daughters Bai Kunwarba and Rupaliba were married to Rao Desalji of Kutch ; Jasuba to the son of the Jam of Nawanagar ; Bai Rajba to Ranmalji, the late Jam of Nawanagar and Banjiba to Vikamatji the Rana of Porbandar. Raj Ranmalsinhji caused fortresses to be built at Sitha and Umarda and a big palace at Halwad. He repaired the fort at Dhrangadra and the tank at Sitha known by the name of ' Chandra Sār '. He also caused a large tank to be constructed near Dhrangadra and named it ' Ramal Sar ' Raj Saheb Ranmalsinhji was a good Scholar in Sanskrit, Persian, Urdu, Vrij and Gujarati languages. He was also fond of writing poetry. At the time of his accession, the State of Dhrangadra had contracted a heavy debt, its land had been left for the most part uncultivated and every thing was rotten to the core. The Raj Saheb introduced many economic reforms and gradually paid off the whole debt and brought the State to a prosperous condition. In 1851 he married his eldest son Mansinhji, the heir-apparent, to Rupaliba, the daughter of Jalam Singhji, the Vaghela chief of Bhadarwa in RewaKantha and Jijiba the daughter of Sangaji, the Jadeja Thakore of Khijadiya, one of the Bhayads of the Dhrol Darbar. In 1854 he gave his daughters Achhuba and Krishnakunwarba in marriage to Rao Shri Pragmalji of Kutch while he married his third daughter Bai Ba to Maharaja Juwan Singhji of Idar.

In 1854 Rupaliba, the Vagheli queen, gave birth to a son who was named Jaswantsinhji. In 1863 the Raj Saheb on his way back from the pilgrimage of Godavari (Nassik Trimback) paid a visit to H. E. Sir Bartle Frere, the Governor of Bombay. Mansinhji, the heir-apparent, was also then with him. In 1863 Raj Ranmalsinhji obtained the honorable distinction of a Knight Commander of the Star of India on the recommendation of Colonel (now General) Keatinge V. C. C. S. I. then appointed Political Agent of Kathiawad. He was invested with the Insignia by Colonel Keatinge in a grand Darbar held at Wadhwan on 22nd December 1866. The principal Thakores and Chiefs of Jhalawad attended the Darbar. In 1867 the Raj proceeded on a pilgrimage to Kashi, Nathdwara, Pushkarji, Shyamlaji, Gokul, Mathura, Prayagrajji and other holy places and returned to Dhrangadra in 1868. In the same year the heir-apparent Mansinhji went to see the Broach Exhibition and on his way back

proceeded to Bombay to pay his respects to Lord Mayo, the Viceroy and Governor-General—elect of India.

Maharaja Raj Saheb Sir Ranmalsinhji K. C. S. I. died on 16th October 1869. He was then 59 years old. He left behind him five sons of whom the eldest Mansinhji succeeded to the throne, who is still reigning at Dhrangadra. The *Jagirs* of Hayapur, Ganjeda, Bharath and Sokhda were respectively bestowed upon the other sons Raghunathsinhji, Meheramanji, Harisinhji and Pratapsinhji. Of these Raghunathsinhji, Meheramanji and Harisinhji have since then died but the first has left behind him two sons, Govindsinhji and Vajesinhji, the second has got a son Motisinhji, while the third, Harisinhji, has also left behind him one son.

In 1870 when H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh, the second son to H. I. M. Queen Victoria, visited India, Mansinhji went to Bombay to pay him his respects. In commemoration of the visit, the Raj Saheb contributed a sum of Rs. 15000 towards the erection of a *Dharmashala* (inn) at the Rajkot Civil station. When the building was completed, a marble tablet was fixed at the top of its gate perpetuating the name of its munificent donor. At Bombay he paid a visit to H. E. the Governor, Sir Saymor Fitzgerald. Mansinhji also attended the Darbar held at Rajkot in honour of the visit of the same Governor.

In 1871 the Heir-apparent, Jaswantsinhji was married to Bairajba, the daughter of Meheramanji, the reigning chief of Rajkot, and to Majirajba, the daughter of Takhsinhji who was the son of Jalamsinhji the late Thakore of Bhadarwa in Rewa Kantha. Next year Jaswantsinhji personally repaired to Dharampur and married Kushalkunwarba, the sister of Maharana Narandevji. The Maharana is said to have expended on that occasion a princely sum of 4 *lakhs* of rupees.

In 1876 when H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, Heir-apparent to the British Empire, arrived in Bombay, H. H. the Raj saheb went there to do him homage. In commemoration of his visit, the Raj Saheb has built an hospital at Dhrangadra.

When H. I. M. Queen Victoria assumed the most dignified title of the 'Empress of India' an Imperial Assemblage was held at Delhi on 1st January 1877. The Raj Saheb was invited by H. E. Lord Lytton, the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, to attend the Darbar but owing

to ill-health he was prevented from responding to the invitation. He was, however, informed that the Imperial Government were pleased to confer upon him the title of K. C. S. I. and that his salute was raised from 11 to 15 guns. On this occasion royal banners were presented to the various chiefs who had attended the Darbar and a similar one was also granted to H. H. the Raj saheb, which was, presented to him by H. E. Sir Richard Temple in a grand Darbar held at Bhavnagar, when he visited that place at the end of the year 1877.

On 1st January 1878 Mr. (now Sir) J. B. Peile. C. S., then Political Agent of Kathiawad, invested H. H. Sir Mansinhji, the Raj Saheb of Dhrangadra, with the Insignia of the Knight Commander of the Star of India in a grand Darbar held at Rajkot. In the same year the Raj Saheb married his daughter Raj Kunwarba to the late Maharaja Ranjitsinhji K. C. S. I. of Rutlam; while in 1882 he gave his second daughter Bakunwarba in marriage to Maharaja Savai Madhavsinhji of Jaipur.

In 1880 a very mournful event occurred which threw the Raj Saheb, his family, his subjects and many other people besides, into the greatest grief. This was the sad and premature demise of the Heir-apparent, Jaswantsinhji. He was a very virtuous and well-meaning youth, but cruel Death laid its icy hand on the unfortunate prince when he was just 26 years old, in the very flower of youth. He has left behind him two sons, the elder Ajitsinhji born of the Rajkot wife and the younger Dolatsinhji by his other wife the daughter of the chief of Bhadarwa.

The Jhala chiefs of Jhalawad look upon the Raj Saheb as the head of their stock and give him all the respect due to his high position. When all the Jhala chiefs meet together the Raj Saheb takes his seat on a sofa or a raised dais, while the rest sit on chairs or on the carpet spread on the ground.

Maharaja Raj Saheb Sir Mansinhji K. C. S. I. is a first class Chief in Kathiawad and as such enjoys full civil and criminal jurisdiction in his State. He receives a salute of 15 guns as a personal distinction although the State is entitled to a salute of 11 guns.



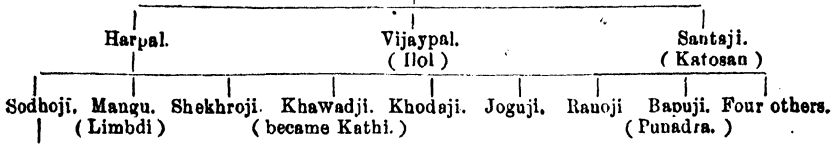
DHRANGADRA.

(527)

Genealogical tree.

Vehiyas Makwano.

Kesar.



Durjanraji.

Jhakaidevji.

Arjunsinhji.

Devraji.

Dudoji.

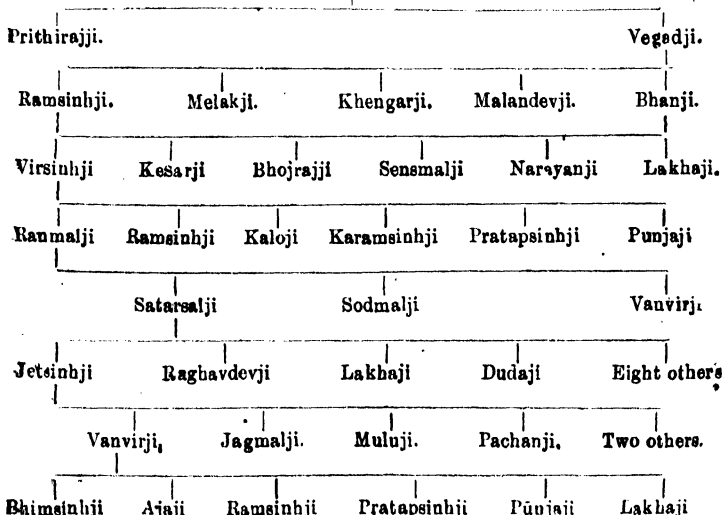
Sursinhji.

Santalji.

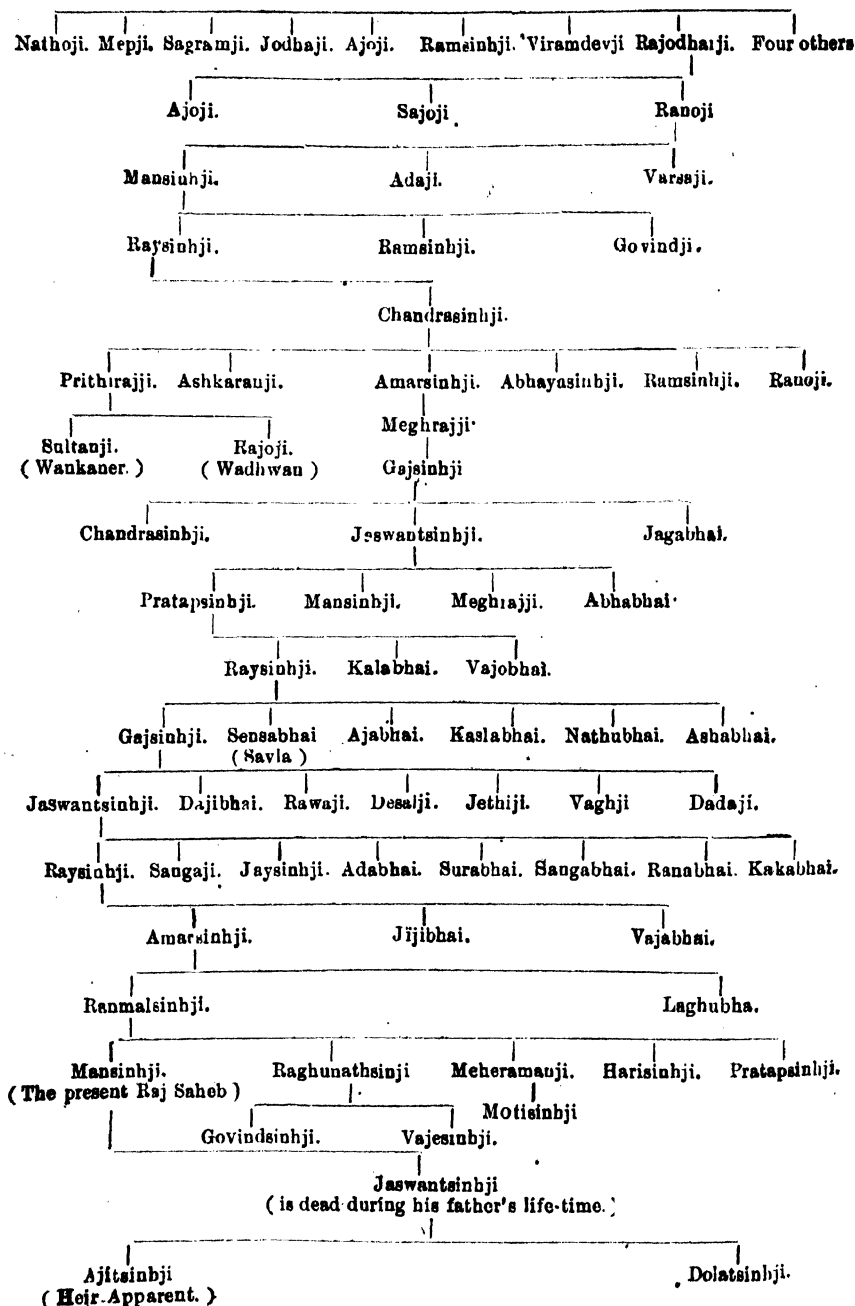
Vijaypalji.



Udesinhji.



Vaghoji.



Residence.—Dhrangdra, Kothiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

JUNAGARH.

Area.—3,239 sq. miles. Population.—387,499.

Revenue.—24,00,000 rupees.

Junagarh is bounded on the north by the territory of Gondal and other small Talukas ; on the east by the Talukas of Jetpur and Bagasra ; on the south by the Arabian sea and on the west by the Native State of Porbandar.

Junagarh claims to be one of the oldest States in Kathiawad. It is now governed by the Nawabs of the Babi dynasty. Before its conquest by the Mahomedans in 1746 it was held by Rajput kings. It was in the year 875 that the Chudasama Rajputs for the first time made Junagarh (Sorath) their seat of government. Before them Sorath was governed by the Rajput kings of Chaura or Chavada tribe, but they had their seat of government in Vamansthal, or as it is now called Vanthali.

The famous Shri Krishna, founder of the Yadav dynasty, had a son, named Samba, by his wife, Jambuvanti. There flourished one, Devendra, in his line, 80 degrees removed from him. He had four sons, Aspat, Gajpat, Narpat, and Bhupat. Of these, Aspat embraced Islamism, Bhupat became the founder of the Bhatti tribe of Rajputs, while Rajputs, tracing their pedigree to Samat, the son of Narpat, came to be known as Samas. The Jadejas are a mere off-shoot of the Sama tribe of Rajputs. Gajpat had a son, named Chuda Chandra, and it is to him that the Chudasama Rajputs owe their origin.

This Chuda Chandra, the founder of the Chudasama tribe, first went to Sorath from Sindh. At that time Vala Ram, of the Chavda tribe, reigned at Vanthali. He was the maternal uncle of Chuda Chandra. After the death of Vala Ram his nephew, Chuda Chandra, ascended the throne of Vanthali in 875 ; and it was in this year that the power of the Chudasama Rajputs was for the first time established in Sorath. Saurashtra or Sorath was then the name for the whole peninsula of Kathiawad ; so Chuda Chandra as the King of Sorath must have exercised regal authority over all the ruling princes, great and small, throughout the province.

Chuda Chandra died in the year 907 and was succeeded by his grandson, Mulraj, on the Vanthali *gadi*. He added considerably to his dominions.

On his death he was succeeded by Vishwa, who assumed the title of Rah. This distinctive title was adopted by all his descendants on their assuming the government of Sorath.

Rah Vishwa died in 940 and was succeeded by Rah Gariyo. (Grahari) He was also known by the name of 'Gripu'. He was such a valiant and powerful chieftain that the kings of Delhi, Devgadha and Lanka are said to have trembled at his name. Rah Gariyo (Grahari) died in 982. He was succeeded by Rah Kawat. He imprisoned and set at liberty the chief of Abu on ten different occasions. He was himself once entrapped by Viramdev, the Parmar chief of Shiyal Bet, but was subsequently released by his maternal uncle, Ugawala. Rah Kawat, dying in 1003, was succeeded by Dayas *alias* Mahipal. The Solanki king of Patan invaded his territory and conquered Vanthali, when the Rah had to seek shelter in the citadel (Uparkot) of Junagarh. The Solanki chief followed him thither and besieged the fortress. All his attempts at escalating the walls were futile; so he resorted to a different plan. He made some of his warriors sit in closed chariots, armed *cap-a-pie*, and declaring that there were women seated in the carriages, succeeded in getting them admitted into the citadel. They all rose in a body and massacred the garrison. In the struggle that ensued the Rah was also killed (1010). The chief reason assigned for this war was the indignity offered by the Raja to one of the ladies of the family of the Gujarat King, who were all proceeding on a pilgrimage to Girnar. The Solanki monarch must in all probability be none else than Durlabhsen. The king of Gujarat returned immediately to his capital, leaving behind him a *Thandar* at Vanthali to look after the conquered district. Durlabhsen died in the same year and was succeeded by Bhimdev I. It was in his reign that the famous Sultan Mahumad, the Emperor of Ghazni, invaded Gujarat in 1024. A bloody battle ensued between the forces of Bhimdev and Mahumad near Prabhas Patan in which the Hindus were defeated. Bhimdev fled towards Kutch and took refuge in the fort of Kanthkot. Mahmud, the Iconoclast, razed to the ground and pillaged the sacred temple of Somnath at Prabhas and broke into pieces the god-like *Linga* of Shiva. The Ghazni conqueror is said to have found immense wealth concealed underneath the image of Shiva. When Rah Dayas *alias* Mahipal of Sorath was killed in the year 1010, one of his wives immolated herself on the funeral pyre, while the other made

her escape into the district of Und with her infant son, Naughan. She thence took shelter with Devayat, the Ahir of Alidhara Bodidhara. The fact that Rah Naughan was concealed in the house of Devayat reached the ears of the *Thandar* of Junagarh. He thereupon summoned the Ahir and ordered him to surrender the person of Naughan. The poor man was harassed exceedingly before he agreed to bring him before that officer. Devayat was a prisoner in the hands of the *Thandar*, who compelled him to write a letter to his wife, desiring her to send Naughan. The faithful Ahir secretly managed to send another letter to his wife, in which he asked her to send their son, Vasana, in the place of Prince Naughan. This message threw the whole household into the greatest grief for Vasana had been married only recently and even the *Mindhulas* were not taken off the wrists of the couple. Notwithstanding this Vasana boldly proceeded to Junagarh with the noble determination of sacrificing himself on the altar of loyalty. On the *Thandar* questioning Devayat whether the boy present was none else than Naughan, he firmly replied, 'Yes he is Naughan in flesh and blood.' The officer then asked the Ahir to cut his throat and he did slay his own son without the slightest hesitation. After the occurrence of this sad event, Devayat returned home but the thoughts of wreaking a terrible vengeance upon his enemies began to oppress him night and day. He had promised the hand of his daughter, Jesala, to an Ahir, residing in Junagarh. On the occasion of her marriage Devayat and several of his Ahir followers assembled together in the capital. The Ahir chief also brought with him Naughan in disguise. Devayat told his trusty Ahirs that if they all agreed to place Naughan on the throne of Junagarh, he would deliver into their hands the person of the *Thandar*. All the Ahirs agreed to the proposal. Devayat invited the *Thandar* and his subordinates to honour him with their presence on the occasion of the marriage of his daughter. In pursuance of a preconcerted plan all the Ahirs fell upon the *Thandar* and his subordinates and killed them in no time. Naughan was instated on the throne of Sorath. This event is supposed to have taken place in 1025.

From this date the seat of government was transferred from Vantali to Junagarh. While Jesala was residing with her husband in Sindh, Hamir Sumro, the ruler of the province, enchanted by the Ahir beauty fell in love with her. He endeavoured to seize her and admit her into his harem. Jesala thereupon wrote a stirring letter to her foster brother, Rah Naughan, entreating him to save her from the impending peril. The

Rah overpowered with feelings of love and gratitude led a large army into Sindh, defeated Hamir and rescued the lovely Jesala. The Rah soon after returned to his capital.

Rah Naughan died in 1044. He was succeeded by Rah Khengar I. No important event is recorded to have occurred during his reign. Dying in 1067, he was succeeded by Naughan II. This Rah was both brave and beautiful. He entered into hostility with many brave princes and chiefs. Among them was the great Sidharaj, the celebrated king of Patan. Naughan II., was once forced by him to seek submission with a bunch of grass in his mouth. He had also offended Hansraj, the chief of Umeta, on the river Mahi, and the Vaghela of Bhoira. He was also much displeased with a Charan, named Mesan, who had insulted him. The Rah had four sons Bhim, the founder of the houses of Bhadali, Sarva (whence the Sarvaiyas) and Gampha; Satarsal who received Dhandhuka; Devganji who received the Osham Chorashi; and Khengar who succeeded him.* Naughan, when on deathbed, summoned all his sons to his side and said ' Oh sons ! my soul will not leave my body until you promise to faithfully carry out the four following behests with which I charge you. They are (1) to slay Hansraj of Umeta (2) to destroy the fort of Bhoira (now under Jasdan) (3) to break down the gate of Patan and (4) to split the cheeks of the Charan named Mesan, who had spoken disrespectfully of him. † Khengar alone undertook to carry out all the behests and took a solemn pledge to do all this by pouring water into the hand of his dying father. It was only after this assurance that the soul of Naughan departed in peace. The coronation ceremony on the installation of Rah Khengar on the hereditary throne took place at Junagarh in 1098. He, however, chose to remain for the greater part of the year at Vanthali. Sidharaj Jaysinh of the Solanki clan was his contemporary at Patan in Gujarat. Khengar, availing himself of the absence of Sidharaj, who had marched upon Malwa, invaded Gujarat and breaking the gate of Patan, sent its doors to Junagarh. On his way back he fought with Hansraj of Umeta and killed him in the struggle. After washing his gory sword in the waters of the Mahi, he went to Bhoira on his way to Junagarh and destroyed the fortress. He thus faithfully carried out three of his father's behests in a single expedition. On his reaching Junagarh he sent

* Bombay Gazetteer Vol. VIII, p. 593.

† Bombay Gazetteer Vol. VIII, p. 493.

for that Charan, who had insulted his father. He filled his mouth with so much gold that the Charan at last cried out "That will do, my cheeks are split." Then the Rah bestowed upon him a village, situated about twelve miles to the south-west of Palitana. That village is still called after him. Mesanka. Rah Khengar married the celebrated Ranak • Devi. She was, as tradition goes, bred up in the house of a potter, but was betrothed to Maharaja Sidharaj of Gujarat. But before her marriage with the monarch of Gujarat was celebrated, Khengar carried her away to Junagarh and made her his wife. This insult afforded Sidharaja a fresh cause for resentment. He marched against Junagarh with a large army and besieged the citadel. During the siege Khengar used to stay in the Upar Kot, while his favourite wife Ranak was kept in the fortress of Girnar. No one had access to her save Desal and Visal, the nephews of Rah Khengar. Once it so happened that during one of his visits to the Girnar fortress, he saw his nephew, Desal, lying drunk in the palace of his queen. This aroused a suspicion in his breast with regard to his nephew's conduct, and in spite of Desal's entreaties and protestations to the contrary, he expelled both Desal and Visal from his dominions. Burning with a desire for revenge, they took refuge with their uncle's enemy Sidharaj. This was a most welcome desertion indeed to Sidharaj, for he had lain there besieging the fortress for over twelve years and his troops had grown weary and discontented. Concealed under sacks of grain, on the back of many a cattle. The soldiers artfully succeeded in obtaining an entrance to the Upar Kot where they massacred the whole garrison. Rah Khengar fell while valiantly fighting with the enemy. The treacherous brothers took Sidharaj to the palace of the fair queen and requested their aunt to open the gate. The poor woman, quite ignorant of what had occurred, recognising the voice of her nephews, ran eagerly to throw open the gate. Sidharaj saw her seated with her two sons, Manero and Dagayacha. He could not bear the sight of the two little offsprings of his rival, affectionately carried in the loving embrace of a woman, who was once about to become his own wife. He slew the unfortunate Dagayacha with his own hands and ran after Manero to apprehend him. The innocent boy began to cry, seeking as usual his mother's protection. To this the helpless woman replied.—

‘ Weep not Manero, make not your eyes red,

‘ Disgrace not thy family, nor remember the mother at death.

Sidharaj did not kill Manero on the spot, but it is said that he slew him afterwards. It is not ascertained at which place he perpetrated this foul deed. Sidharaj then set out for Patan, carrying Ranak Devi with him. The helplessness of the queen and her lamentations on leaving Junagarh are very touchingly described in Rasmala, which we crave permission to quote below. "Ranak Devi was brought out of the fort. At that time she saw Ra Khengar's war horse and sorrowing said,"

' O ! swift steed.

' Has your bosom not burst ?

' Ra Khengar is dead.

' Will you now visit Gujarat ?',

Next she saw an elk that had belonged to Ra Khengar ; she said —

' O ! elk-lion bethink you,

' Once you were free .

' But when Khengar died

' You lost your freedom for aye'

She heard a pea-fowl crying and said to it :—

' Why cry you, pea-fowl,

' In the caves of Girnar ?

' Our hearts are broken,

' Our protector is gone.'

Ranak Devi came to where the corpse of Khengar was lying ; she addressed it thus :—

' Rise, Lord ! collect your army,

' Take your sword Khengar ;

' This canopied lord is over-shading

' The old fort Junagarh' ;

As she descended into the valley, she took leave of her favourite the Damodarkund", to which she addressed:—

' Descended the fort of Girnar,

' The body, its bottom gained,

' Never shall I tread this again

' And behold thee, O ! Damokund ?'

She reached the Dhargar garden and said ;—

' Why blossom you O' Champa !

' Your trunk shall I scorch with fire.

' The enjoyer of your blossoms

' Is killed, Ra Khengar !'

On her coming down She lookd up to the Girnar mountain and said,—

- ‘ Lofty hill, Girnar,
- ‘ With the clouds that talkest,
- ‘ Fall now to the earth
- ‘ For Ra Khengar has fallen.

When she had gone on some miles, she turned back and seeing the mountain from another side, thought that it was moving to escort them; she said:

- ‘ Return murderous Girnar
- ‘ Why should you escort your foes ?
- ‘ Khengar Ra is dead
- ‘ Why fell you not with him ? ’

When she had gone very far and the mountain had almost disappeared below the horizon, she fancied it was falling, and said—

- ‘ Sink not my support !
- ‘ Your stones who shall upraise !.
- ‘ Though the raiser has departed,
- ‘ They that survive will pay you homage ! ’

When the train arrived at Pattanwara, Sidharaj strove to console Ranak Devi and pointed out to her several good places ; she said,—

- ‘ Burned be Pattan land,
- ‘ Where animalculæ die of thirst
- ‘ Best is the land of Sorath,
- ‘ Where the forest-beast drinks his fill ! ’

At length they arrived under the walls of Pattan and made a halt there. The Raja caused the inhabitants of the city to be feasted outside, and they all poured forth dressed in holiday attire. Ranak Devi would take no pleasure in the sight but said :—

- ‘ Burned be Pattan land’
- ‘ Where short scarfs cover the women,
- ‘ Best is the land of Sorath,
- ‘ Where the woman’s robe is rich and full ! ’

A Gujarat woman said to her, ‘ You have the great Sidharaj for your husband ’, she said, ‘ My husband ! I left him in such a state as this,—

- ‘ His moustache stirred by the wind.
- ‘ His teeth glittering in the rays of the sun.
- ‘ My husband ! O short-scarfed one !
- ‘ I have seen my husband thus ; ’

The woman asked her how she could refrain from tears. She said :—

‘ With drops from my eyelids,
 ‘ What need I should fill a well ?
 ‘ Thinking of my Manero’s death
 ‘ Rivers of tears course through my body ’ ?

Thus Ranak Devi refused to be consoled in any manner. Sidharaj treated her very respectfully and asked her where it would be her pleasure to reside. She said she would go to Wadhwan. Sidharaj himself escorted her thither. It was here that the monarch of Gujarat offered Ranak Devi to make her his chief queen. She, however, indignantly refused the insolent demand and cursed Sidharaj that he would die without issue, as he had wantonly murdered her innocent offsprings. Afterwards she ordered a funeral pyre to be prepared on the banks of the river Bhogawo and placing the turban of her deceased lord Khengar in her lap, she took her seat thereon. Sidharaj, as a last resource, said to her that, if she were a true Sutte, the pile would ignite without fire. Ranak Devi knelt down and turning her face towards the sun, said:—

‘ Farewell Wadhwan, city good,
 ‘ Beneath whose walls Bhogawo flows,
 ‘ Me Ra Khengar only enjoyed
 ‘ Enjoy me now husband Bhogawo.’

The wind blew so hot at this time that the pile was thereby ignited.

‘ Well blew the heated wind :
 ‘ By which the sands were scorched,
 ‘ As Sidharaj stood by Bhogawo
 ‘ To behold the truth of the Sorathianee.’

At this time Sidharaj threw his own scarf over Ranak Devi ; she cast it back to him out of the fire and said, ‘ If you would become my husband in another life you must now burn with me.’* Sidharaj declined. A memorial temple was ordered to be erected in her honour on the spot, which stands there to this day ; though it is now seen within the city walls, owing to the rapid growth of Wadhwan. After the death of Rah Khengar, Sidharaj entrusted the affairs of government to Sajan, one of his brave warriors, but the subjects of Junagarh rose in a body against him and drove him out of the territory. They seated Rah Naughan III. on the Sorath *gadi* in the year 1125. On his death in 1140 he was succeeded

* Basmala Vol I. pp. 166-69.

by Rawat II. and after his death in 1152, Prince Jaysinh, *alias* Rah Gariyo II. came to the throne. Rah Jaysinh, dying in 1180, was succeeded by Raysinh. He reigned till 1184 and was succeeded by Mahipal II. In 1201 Rah Jaymal came to the throne, which he enjoyed till 1230.

After the death of Jaymal, Prince Mehepo or Mahipal III. came to the throne. In his reign the Kathis gathered a large army near Kotda and rebelled against him. The Rah, too, sent a large army under the command of Motisha to intimidate the Kathi leaders ; but they had mustered strong and in the contest between the two contending armies Motisha sustained a signal defeat. Shortly after, Arjunsinh, the Vala Raja of Dhonk, came to the succour of the Rah with a large army and attacked the bands of the Kathis and dispersed them. They, however, rallied together in no time and reduced many of the villages of Dhonk to submission. It was in his time that Sejakji, the founder of the Gohel dynasty in Kathiawad, first came to Sorath from his native country of Marwar and sought the Rah's protection. Rah Mehepo bestowed upon him the village of Shapor. It is to this chief that the present rulers of Bhavnagar, Palitana, Lathi and Rajpipla in Rewa Kantha trace their descent. Rah Mehepo died in 1253 and was succeeded by Khengar III. He continued warring with the Kathis, reconquered all the villages of the Dhonk territory, which they had seized and restored them to Arjunsinh. Rah Khengar III. and Arjunsinh were very great friends. It is said that they ravished a woman of the Mer tribe, whose relations assassinated them both. This occurred in the year 1260. Rah Khengar III. was succeeded by Rah Mandalik. During his reign Junagarh suffered considerably from the successive invasions of the Rathods, Vaghelas, and the Mahomedans under Ala-ud-din Khilji. Alaf Khan, the generalissimo of Ala-ud-din's troops, once more destroyed the famous temple of Sorathi Somnath. The temple of Somnath was destroyed by Mahmurud Ghazni in 1024, but it was reconstructed by Kumarpal, the King of Gujarat, of the Solanki tribe, in the middle of the 12th century. He conquered the sea-coast territory between Ghogha and Madhavpur and appointed a Suba to preserve order in the conquered districts. Rah Mandalik died in 1306. He was succeeded by Rah Naughan IV. He reigned only for two years and dying in 1308, was succeeded by Rah Mahipal IV. He repaired the historic temple of Sorathi Somnath, which was all in ruins and did many other charitable acts. Rah Mahipal IV. died in 1325, after a reign of 17 years and was succeeded by Rah Khengar IV. He expelled the Mahomedan Suba from

Somnath and enhanced the greatness of the God, Mahadev. When Mahmud Tughlak of Delhi invaded Gujarat, a detachment of the Imperial troops stormed the fort of Junagarh, but after the recall of the army Rah Khengar regained his lost power and in addition to his own territory conquered several islands in the sea. He was a brave monarch, having subdued no less than eighty-four different chiefs and exacted tribute from them all. On Rah Khengar's death in 1351, Rah Jaysinh II. came to the throne. He vanquished all the enemies of his father and increased the extent of his already vast kingdom. He died in the year 1369. After Rah Jaysinh II. a succession of princes occupied the throne of Junagarh, in whose reigns no event worth recording seems to have taken place. Jaysinh was succeeded by Mahipal V. who reigned till 1373. Then came Mokalsinh, who died in 1395. Then upto 1400 reigned Rah Mandalik II. who was succeeded by Melingdev, who died in 1415. It was in the reign of this last prince that Sultan Ahmed I. the Shah of Ahmedabad (Gujarat), invaded Junagarh in 1413-14. The Rah, however, succeeded in defeating him. He plundered all his baggage and drove him out of Kathiawad. Rah Melingdev was after his death succeeded by Jaysinh III. He defeated the Yavan (Mahomedan) army near Jhanjhmer. Rah Jaysinh dying in 1440, was succeeded by his brother, Mahipal VI. He during his life-time in 1451 installed his ill-fated son, Mandalik III. on the throne of Junagarh, destined to terminate the unbroken line of illustrious Rajput rulers in the province of Sorath.

Rah Mandalik III. was as misconducted as he was brave. The Gohel Dudo of Arthilla (the present Lathi) was ravaging the territory of the Shah of Gujarat. He wrote to the Rah to dissuade the Gohel from doing so. Dudo was summoned and upbraided by the Rah, but he did not give up the marauding adventures. The Rah marched against Dudo, though he was the uncle of his wife and in the struggle the Gohel was killed, while Arthilla was pillaged and destroyed. The famous devotee and poet, Narsinh Mehta, seems to have flourished in Rah Mandalik's time. Many stories have been recounted of the Rah's illicit amours, which brought destruction upon him. In the village of Mania, there lived a Charan woman of extraordinary beauty. Her name was Gangabai *alias* Nagbai. She was, however, as chaste as she was beautiful. The Rah heard accounts of her captivating beauty and he repaired to Mania to have a look at the fair Charan woman. He made several futile attempts to ravish this

blooming beauty. At last he contented himself by throwing his hand upon her bosom, when the Charan woman turned away from him and thus cursed the wicked Rah. "The bride of thy good fortune shall turn away her face from thee even as I do now and will unite herself with the Mahomedan Kings. Thy kingdom shall fall into the hands of the Moslems, thou, too, shall fall into their hands and shall die a follower of Islam."* The dreadful curse of the enraged woman is still sung by the people of the province in the following Sorathas. (stanzas)

- ' Thou shalt not see the gates of ancient fort nor Damokund.
- ' The jewel of thy fame shall fade, Oh ! Mandalik !
- ' The glory of the Rah depart, the Rah shall cease to live. .
- ' Tombs shall stand over where Temples are, Oh Mandalik !
- ' Thou mighty king ! hast gone astray and didst not kneel
 . at Naga.
- ' Tombs shall be where palace stands, Oh Mandalik !
- ' No drum shall beat, nor greeting be proclaimed.
- ' The *Asurs* shall pervade the land, Oh Mandalik " !

Rah Mandalik, though he failed in polluting the Charan beauty, succeeded in ravishing Manmohana, the young and beautiful wife of his Bania minister Vishalsha. The enraged husband went to the court of Mahmud Shah III. then reigning in Gujarat, to get a proper redress of his grievance. The Bania roused the anger of the Moslem and persuaded him to attack Junagarh. Mahmud Shah there-upon marched against Rah Mandalik with a large army, (1467) but soon returned to Ahmedabad on receiving from the Rah demonstrations of friendship. The *Shah, however, could not bear to see Rah Mandalik assuming independence and he again marched upon Junagarh with an army consisting of 40,000 horse. This time also, on receiving the Rah's submission, he returned without subjugating his dominions. No sooner had the monarch returned than Mandalik began to set at defiance the Moslem's authority. At last in 1473 Mahmud Shah marched thither for the third time with a determination to seize the capital of Sorath. He remained there in the vicinity of the fort and constantly sent reinforcements to the besieging troops. The Rah occasionally visited the enemy's camp and entreated the monarch to spare him and his family. This the Shah promised to do only on condition of his embracing

* Col. Watson in the Bombay Gazetteer Vol. VIII, p. 500

Islamism. He grew disappointed and entering the citadel, closed the gates. The Shah, without raising his siege, managed to cut off all supplies to the garrison besieged. At last when all supplies of grain were thus cut off, Rah Mandalik came out of the fort and only on condition of having his life spared, abandoned his capital, to the besieger and surrendered himself to Sultan Mahmud of Gujarat (1476).

The Moslem ordered him to recite the holy *Kalam*s and Rah Mandalik * embraced Islamism and became a Mahomedan. It was from this date that the government of Junagarh was transferred from the hands of the Chudasama Rajputs to those of the Mahomedan Kings of Gujarat. Mahomedan sway was for the first time established in Junagarh in the year 1476

After the capture of Junagarh, Mahmud caused a wall to be built behind the city and a tomb to be raised in the Upar Kot. He induced several Mahomedans by means of lucrative grants to reside with their families in the conquered land. The Sultan returned to Ahmedabad after staying at Junagarh only for a short time. Mahmud is styled 'Beghdo', (Begara) for his having conquered the two hill-forts of Junagarh and Pawagarh, a stronghold in Gujarat. The latter place he conquered in 1484 from the hands of Patai Rawal, who was slain in the contest.

After his return to Ahmedabad, Mahmud appointed Subedars to carry on the government of Sorath. He first of all gave that place to his son, Kalifa, and after him came in succession Tatar Khan, Sayad Kasam, Mugajid Khan Belim and Amin Khan Bin Tatar Khan. During the regime of Amin Khan, Akbar, the Great Mughal Emperor at Dehli, conquered the kingdom of Gujarat in the year 1573 from Muzaffar Shah III, a descendant of Mahmud Begara, who was then reigning at Ahmedabad.

In 1591, Ajj Khan, the foster-brother of Emperor Akbar, who was appointed Suba of Gujarat, marched with a vast army upon Junagarh. He conquered it from the hands of Daulat Khan, the son of Amin Khan, and appointed Naurang Khan to carry on the government on his behalf. After a short period Khengar, the Chudasama Jagirdar of Junagarh, made a common cause with Daulat Khan. The Suba, suspecting that they

* The Sultan bestowed upon Rah Mandalik the title of "Khan Jahan" and brought him to Ahmedabad. Rah Mandalik died there. He lies buried in a grave which is to be seen even to-day in a confectioner's shop in Manek chok.

would rise against him, * appeased the Chudasama with the gift of the *paragnas* of Keshoj and Chorwadi. Khengar therefore retired to take charge of the newly acquired *Paragnas*.

The Emperor of Dehli thenceforth substituted Fouzdars in the place of the old Subas, Naurang Khan, Mirja Isturkhan, Kutbuddin Sardar Khan and several others. Junagarh is at present held by Nawabs of the Babi dynasty. We now proceed to narrate a short account of their ancestors, whence they came to India and how they established their seat of government at Junagarh.

Bahadur Khan, the first of the illustrious line of Babis, migrated into India from Afghanistan in the beginning of the 17th century. When Shah Jahan, the grand-son of Akbar, was reigning at Delhi, Prince Morad Baksh was appointed the Suba of Gujarat in 1654. At that time Bahadur Khan sent with him his son, Sher Khan to Gujarat. He was an intelligent and resolute young man and the Suba gave him the place of *Thandar* of Chunwal *Paragna*. This district was for the most part inhabited by a strong but law-less class of people, called the Chunwal Kolis and it required an officer of Sher Khan's intelligence and firmness to keep them in order. Sher Khan had four sons, of whom Mahmud Mubariz Khan was in 1674 appointed Suba of Kadi. At that time his second son, Mahmud Muzffar, was the Suba of Kadi. The third son, Jafar Khan, whose descendants were destined to rule over Junagarh, Radhanpur, Vadasinor and Bantwa, was appointed *Thandar* of Chunwal in the place of his father in 1690. The descendants of his fourth son, Baza Khan, enjoy at the present day the *Jagir* of Ranpur under Junagarh. The title of Safdar Khan was bestowed on Jafar Khan in recognition of the meritorious service performed by him in the district of Chunwal and he was promoted to the post of Naib (assistant) Suba at Patan. In 1698, Sujat Khan, the new Mughal Suba of Gujarat, did not pull on well with Babi Jafar Khan; whereupon the latter resigned his Naib Subaship and proceeded to Malwa. He returned to Gujarat after the termination of Sujat Khan's term of office.

When Durgadas Rathod, the ex-Suba of Patan, raised the standard of revolt in Gujarat in 1703, Jafar Khan volunteered either to kill the rebel or capture him alive. He succeeded in catching hold of his person and turning him out of Gujarat. Aurangzeb, the Emperor of Dehli, in recognition of the signal service rendered by him to his cause, permanently

reinstated him in his old place of the Naib Suba of Patan. He was also entrusted with the management of the Vijapur *Paragna* in 1704.

When the Marathas began to make inroads upon the southern part of Gujarat in 1705, and when they laid waste the greater part of the territory, the Emperor ordered Jafar Ali Khan and Babi Jafar Khan to march against them and prevent them from over-running the country. The Marathas lay encamped near Ratanpur, a village in Rajpipla. The Mussalman officers marched thither and pitched their camp at a small distance from the enemy's outpost. The two Mahomedan officers grew jealous of each other, which created disaffection among their troops. Besides Dhanaji Jadav, the leader of the Maratha army, made a sudden onslaught upon the unwary Mussalmans at the dead of night. This created great confusion among their men who began to fly for their lives. Babi Jafar Khan was, however, taken prisoner. Dhanaji released him, after taking a very heavy ransom. The Babi thus discomfited, returned to Patan. Jafar Khan lost one of his sons in this unfortunate expedition.

Shortly after Jafar Khan's return to Patan, Durgadas raised his head once more and Jafar Khan, too, once more agreed to kill or catch him alive on condition that he should, if successful, be made the Suba of Patan. He did succeed in killing Durgadas and he was consequently appointed Suba of Gujarat. From this time Jafar Khan became the greatest and the bravest among the Mahomedan nobility of Gujarat. All his sons were given high and lucrative places. Thus we find one of his sons, Mahmud Sher, appointed to the Subaship of Radhanpur with the title of 'Khan Jahan Javan Murd Khan' in 1716. The present Nawab of Radhanpur is a descendant of this Mahmud Sher. His other son, Salabat Mahmud Khan, was first made the Suba of Gohelwad but was afterwards transferred to Virangam. When Salabat Mahmud Khan was the Suba of Virangam, his son, Mahmud Bahadur, was appointed a Fouzdar in the district surrounding Ahmedabad in 1722. Afterwards he was raised to the position of the Suba of Sadra and Virpur with the title of 'Sher Khan.' Babi Salabat Mahmud Khan obtained the *Jagirs* of Ghogha and Vadasinor. When Sorab Khan was given the place of the Fouzdar of Sorath, he was also granted with it the *Jagir* of Ghogha. Sorab Khan gave the Babi the *Jagir* of Bantwa in exchange for Ghogha. Babi Salabat Mahmud Khan distributed the *Jagir* of Bantwa among two of his younger sons, Dalil Khan and Jaman Khan, for their maintenance. These two brothers are the ancestors of the present rulers of Bantwa.

In 1731, when Abhayasinh Rathod conquered Baroda by killing Pilaji Rao Gaekwad at Dakor, the victor entrusted the government into the hands of Mahmud Bahadur (Sher Khan), the son of Babi Salabat Mahmud Khan. Madhaji Gaekwad, the brother of Pilaji, who was then at Jambusar, marched upon Baroda with his troops and seizing the capital, drove away the Babis who fled to Vadasinor.

The last of the Mughal Jagirdars of Sorath was Mir Hajbar Khan, the brother-in-law of Sams-ud-daula. The administration of Sorath was mainly carried on by his assistant (Naib). After the dismissal of one of his assistants, the place was given to Sorab Khan, who was succeeded by Meherab Khan, the uncle of Hajbar Khan. The latter, however, did not enjoy his power long ; for he was soon replaced by Mir Dolat Ali, who was appointed direct from Delhi.

The affairs of Sorath grew worse by such frequent changes in the appointment of administrators. Besides, Mir Dolat Ali, the new assistant, was not competent to manage the affairs properly. Babi Mahmud Bahadur (Sher Khan) was therefore called upon to assume the reins of government. The Babi was formerly a revenue-farmer of Sorath and was therefore perfectly acquainted with all the internal and external affairs of the province. Dolat Ali invited him to Junagarh and entrusted him with the protection of the country. In return for such service and for the payment of guards, watchmen and village police, Mir Dolat Ali gave over to the Babi half of the *Paragnas* of his Sorath *Jagir*. (1738-39) In the beginning Babi Mahmud Bahadur applied himself assiduously to the improvement of the whole administration, but when he was assured that his hold over the people's hearts had become unassailable, he began to misconduct himself, so that the helpless Mir Dolat Ali grew tired of him and resigned his place (Naibi) to the Babi. From that day Mahmud Bahadur became the master of Sorath. Mir Hajbar Khan, the old Jagirdar of Sorath, died shortly after and the Fouzdari of Junagarh was conferred upon Himat Ali Khan. The new Fouzdar was the cousin of Mirja Jafar *alias* Mamin Khan, the Mughal Suba of Gujarat. He sought the assistance of Mirja Jafar in advancing the interests of one of his kinsmen by conferring upon him the Naibi of Sorath, but the Suba could not send him any succour owing to the frequent attacks made by the Maratha troops on the Mahomedan possessions. When he obtained the means of accomplishing his object in 1740-41 he found the Babi so firmly established in Junagarh that he

considered it impossible to dislodge him. The idea of appointing one of his own relations at Junagarh had consequently to be given up.

Babi Mahmud Bahadur, though he was permanently settled in Sorath, was not yet unmindful of the affairs of Gujarat. In the several contests between Rangoji, the Deputy of Umabai, on the one side and Punaji Vithal, Trimbakrao and Faku-ud-daula on the other, Rangoji sought the assistance of Babi Mahmud Bahadur. The latter, however, had lost all confidence in his soldiers, whose salaries had fallen into arrears, and he had therefore to abandon the idea of proceeding to Rangoji's succour. The Babi shortly after plundered the districts of Mahudha and Nadiad and thence marched direct upon Kapadvanj. On the way he accidentally came across a party of the Marathas and in the encounter many of his soldiers were killed. He made his escape the next night and with his men joined the army of Rangoji, lying encamped near Kapadvanj. In 1746 Babi Mahmud Bahadur had another encounter with the Marathas, under Faku-ud-daula, in which he was wounded. He had once more to seek refuge in the camp of Rangoji.

In 1747, Babi Mahmud Bahadur and Raysinhji of Idar espoused the cause of Faku-ud-daula and with their combined forces laid siege to Ahmedabad. They were however obliged to raise it and retire. In the same year Damaji Rao Gaekwad and his brother Khande Rao asked for the assistance of Babi Javan Murd Khan II, and marched upon Borsad. They were opposed by Babi Mahmud Bahadur and Raysinhji, who had undertaken the defence of the town. This circumstance created a strong bitterness of feeling between the two opposing factions. Babi Mahmud Bahadur thereupon retired to Junagarh in 1748, leaving one of his sons, Sardar Mahmud, at Vadasinor.

Babi Mahmud Bahadur from this date left off all concern with Gujarat and from 1754 began to carry on the affairs of Junagarh with the title of Nawab.

Nawab Mahmud Bahadur *alias* Sher Khan died in the year 1758, when his eldest son, Mahobat Khan, was installed on the throne by the Mahomedan Umras (nobility.) Sardar Mahmud, the second son of the late Nawab, who was already in Vadasinor, assumed independence with the title of 'Nawab' and his descendants are to this day the rulers of Vadasinor.

Soon after the accession of Mahobat Khan he found himself beset with intrigues on all sides. The most formidable one was set on foot by Sahiba Sultan Bibi, the aunt of the Nawab. She was married to Babi Samat Khan, the son of Sher Khan, uncle to the deceased Nawab. She succeeded through the instrumentality of Sulaiman, a Jamadar of the Arab mercenaries, and several others in securing the person of the Nawab and in shutting him up as a prisoner in the Upar Kot. She then proclaimed her son, Muzaffar Khan, the Nawab of Junagarh. At this juncture Kamal-ud-din Khan *alias* Jawan Mird Khan II, the Nawab of Radhanpur, besieged the fort of Junagarh with a large army, but all his attempts at escalading the fort proving futile, he retired to a short distance and pitching his camp there, began to watch the events. From such a crisis Junagarh was relieved by the intercession of Kumbhaji, the chief of Gondal. He expostulated with the Nawab of Radhanpur and prevailed upon him to return to his capital. He also succeeded in obtaining the liberation of Mahobat Khan on condition that the *Jagir* of Rampur should be bestowed upon Muzaffar Khan, in consideration of his renouncing all claims to the throne of Junagarh. The other stipulation was that Sahiba Sultan Bibi also should withdraw from Junagarh. The whole intrigue was thus brought to a speedy termination.

Kumbhaji of Gondal was at that time a very powerful chieftain in Kathiawad and his influence was enhanced by his successful intercession in the affairs of Junagarh. He advanced to the Nawab a sum of 35,000 Jamshahi Kories for his immediate expenditure, in return whereof he got the *Paragana* of Upleta conveyed to him. The affairs at Junagarh were on the other hand deteriorating from day to day. The Nawab was not in a position to employ a regular army as he was hopelessly short of funds. The band of mercenaries, which he had in his service, maintained itself by plundering the neighbouring districts. These constant forays had, however, one salutary effect. The neighbouring chiefs grew submissive and began to pay to the Nawab their annual tributes. The Arabs once seized on the Upar Kot as their pay had fallen into arrears. They vowed to hold it until all their arrears were paid and other demands were satisfied. Sahiba Sultan Bibi taking advantage of this opportunity, seized upon Verawal, from which she was expelled by Shaikh Miyan and Malek Shah-bud-din, who began to rule there without owing allegiance to the Nawab. At this time Amarji, a Nagar Brahmin youth of Mangrol aged only 18 years, arrived in Junagarh and espousing the cause of the Nawab,

stormed the gate of Vagheshvari with the help of Salmin, the Jamadar of the Porbandar troops, and his Arab followers and thence succeeded in making his way to the UparKot. He eventually pacified the insurgent Arabs by paying them half of their arrears and compelled them to evacuate the UparKot. In recognition of such a signal service, the Nawab conferred upon Amarji and Salmin high and influential posts in the State. Amarji then vanquishing Shaikh Miyan and Malek Shah-bud-din, conquered Verawal back from their hands.

In 1764 when Shaikh Miyan of Mangrol raised the standard of revolt against the Nawab, Amarji, who was then made the Prime Minister, marched against the rebellious Shaikh. In the struggle that ensued Amarji captured the forts of Seel, Divasa, Mahiyari and Bagasara. He then proceeded direct upon Mangrol and commenced bombarding the citadel. Shaikh Miyan thereupon agreed to surrender half the villages of his province and a peace was finally concluded. Amarji was endowed with rare courage and the Nawab grew apprehensive of his increasing power and influence in the State. The enemies of Amarji poisoned the ears of the Nawab, who in 1767 gave orders for the imprisonment of the Diwan and his two brothers, Durlabhji and Govindji. He also murdered the Jamadar Salmin. After a close confinement of five months, the Diwan and his brothers were released on payment of an exorbitant fine. They all went to Jetpur and took up their residence there.

Shaikh Miyan of Mangrol once more rebelled against the authority of the Nawab, who marched against him, in person, but had to return discomfited. The Nawab had no other alternative but to request Amarji to resume the command of his army. On his taking the field Shaikh Miyan instantly agreed to pay to the Diwan a heavy penalty in addition to the booty he had obtained from the Junagarh subjects. He also agreed to own allegiance to the Nawab of Junagarh. Afterwards Diwan Amarji marched against Chand, a Jamadar, who had taken possession of Sutrapada, and defeating him, annexed the village to the Nawab's dominions. Chand escaped and took shelter in the 'Gorakh Madhi,' a celebrated place held by a class of mendicants called the 'Kanphata' (split-eared). In 1770 Babi Sher Jaman Khan of Bantwa, uncle to the reigning Nawab, invaded Junagarh. On being opposed by Diwan Amarji he retired to his capital. A host of banditti had made Dilkhaniya, a place in the forest of Gir, their head-quarters. Kathi Kumpa Vala of Jetpur and Amarji, now

the Diwan, invaded their stronghold with their combined troops and killing many of their number, dispersed them on all sides. He next directed his attention towards the Miyanas of Malia in Machchhukantha, a very troublesome class of people, who were plundering the neighbouring districts. He vanquished them all and then proceeded to Babariyawad. Here he encountered the Babariyas and succeeded in subduing them also.

Kumbhaji, the chief of Gondal, who had obtained from Junagarh the districts of Upleta and Dhoraji, grew apprehensive of Amarji's greatness and fearing that he would not allow him a quiet enjoyment of these two districts, contrived to incite the Nawab against his Diwan by harping into his ears that Amarji was becoming so powerful that he would some day dethrone him and usurp the regal authority. The Nawab, who was a weak-headed prince, believed all this and said that he would be but too glad if Kumbhaji should vanquish his powerful minister. Amarji was once lying encamped near Mala Samdi and a Maratha host had also encamped in the vicinity. Kumbhaji with the help of the Maratha army invaded the camp of Amarji, but the latter proved too strong for both the combined forces.

Mahobat Khan after reigning for 16 years died in April 1775. Amarji Diwan was then absent from Junagarh, having run up to the assistance of Meheraman Khawas, the Diwan to the Jam Saheb of Nawanagar, in suppressing the Vaghers of Okha. He there received the intelligence of the Nawab's death, whereupon he at once returned to Junagarh and placed Prince Hamad Khanji, then only eight years old, on the *gadi*.

After the accession of Hamad Khanji, Amarji directed his attention towards bettering the condition of the State. He then marched upon Jhalawad to exact a tribute, known by the name of *Mulakgiri*. He conquered Jhalawad and levied the tribute from the reigning chiefs.

In 1776-77 Amritrao, the Suba appointed by the Peshwa, and Thobhan, the Suba nominated by the Gaekwad, proceeded to Kathiawad and with their combined forces compelled the chiefs to pay tribute to them. They were opposed by Amarji Diwan near Jetpur. After the Marathas and the troops of Amarji had measured their strength in one encounter, both came to terms through the intercession of Kumbhaji of Gondal and

Kanthad Vala, the Kathi Chief of Jetpur. The Marathas accordingly returned to Ahmedabad. Vaghaji, the Thakore of Morvi, after a few days invaded Vagad in Kutch. The Thakore of Morvi had in this campaign besought the assistance of Amarji Diwan. Their combined troops crossed the *Runn* and seized Keriyanager and Palanswa, but Rao Godaji of Kutch courteously sent them valuable presents, which made them return to their respective territories.

In the winter of 1777, Jivaji Shamraj, the Gaekwadi Suba, proceeded to Kathiawad for the purpose of levying tribute from the chieftains. He made Amreli his head-quarters and began to appropriate to himself the surrounding districts with a view to raise up a strong independent principality. Diwan Amarji, however, attacked him with a large army, when he was obliged to take shelter in the fort of Amreli. The Diwan forced him out of this retreat and reducing the castle, levelled it instantly to the ground.

In 1778 Shaikh Miyan of Mangrol again rebelled against the Junagarh authority, but fearing the consequences of Amarji's wrath, he yielded. The Diwan magnanimously pardoned him all his faults.

Fatehsinh Rao Gaekwad, to retaliate the wrong done to his deputy, Jivaji Shamraj, who was expelled from Amreli in 1777, came up to the vicinity of Jetpur with a vast army in 1778, but the other chiefs intervened and reconciled the Gaekwad with Amarji. In 1779, Sultanji, the Rana of Porbandar, revolted in Barda. Amarji went against him, but on the Rana's paying a larger amount of tribute, he turned back.

In 1782 the indefatigable Diwan marched against Sher Tahir, the Kasbati of Una and Delwada. He conquered both the *Paragnas*, but to keep the vanquished chief quiet and contented, he gave him two villages in *Jagir*. He appointed one Prabhashanker, a Nagar of Vanswada, to the *Fouzdari* of these districts. Prabhashanker governed the Babariyas inhabiting these districts with such firmness that even the Habshis of Jafrahad and the Portuguese of Diu were afraid of incurring his wrath.

In 1784, the Nawab and his minister Amarji set out for Jhalawad and Gohelwad to levy tribute from the chiefs of these provinces. On their way back, Kumbhaji, the Thakore of Gondal, who was always devising schemes for the destruction of Amarji, entreated the Nawab to finally settle in concert with him and carry out some of these plans. Nawab

Hamad Khanji was then only 17 years old. He was also desirous of shaking off the yoke of his Diwan. He thereupon set out for Junagarh under the pretext that he was not keeping good health. Kumbhaji paid him a visit on the way and persuaded the young Nawab to pass one single night at Gondal as his guest. Kumbhaji on that occasion used all his machinations to prejudice the young ambitious Nawab against his faithful minister, and Hamad Khanji resolved to take the life of Amarji. Amarji Diwan had increased the extent of the Junagarh territory during the minority of Nawab Hamad Khanji. It was owing to the exertions of this Amarji that it came to occupy the foremost rank among all the Native States of Kathiawad. If he had the ambition to usurp the kingdom of Sorath, he could have done so with the greatest ease.

Amarji, however, was far above such mean ambition. He was a faithful and trusted minister of the Nawab, who had so ungratefully resolved to get rid of him. When Amarji went to Junagarh during the *Holi* festivities, the Nawab commenced to make vile attempts to gain his object. He was asked to attend the Darbar in the evening of the *Holi*, 6th March 1784, and while he was going up the stair-case he was cut down by assassins, previously secreted there for the foul murder. His son, Ranchhodji, and brother, Durlabhji, and several other Nagars were imprisoned. The Arab Jamadars of Junagarh and the Gackwadi Suba, Rupaji, intervened and got them released after one month's confinement. After the treacherous murder of Amarji, the neighbouring chieftains began to assume independence and appropriate to themselves the outlying districts. Vakhatsinhji, the Thakore of Bhavnagar, conquered the district of Mahuwa and afterwards seized upon Loliyana, Patan and Saldi. A partial reconciliation was brought about at the instance of the Gackwad; yet the Nawab could not help summoning Raghunathji, the eldest son of the deceased Diwan, to assume the reins of government. He was reinstated in the place of his late father. Intrigues were once more ripe to procure his dismissal. Accordingly Durlabhji and after him Raghunathji were turned out of the service. They then went with their family to Jetpur and settled there. Raghunathji was again asked to accept the place of the Diwan, but was soon after dismissed.

Thakore Kumbhaji of Gondal taking advantage of these intrigues, invited in 1786 the sons and other relations of Amarji to settle in his capital and promised to provide them with important posts. His main object in

doing so was to gradually weaken the power of the Junagarh Nawab. Meanwhile the Arab and Sindhi Jamadars in Junagarh rose and assumed defiant attitude. A band of Sindhis seized upon Vantali, while Karamshah, Gulshah and other Jamadars obtained possession of the Nawab's palace. Of these, Gulshah was treacherously murdered, while Karamshah and others were driven out. The latter went to Vantali and took refuge with the Sindhis. The young Nawab sought the assistance of Premji, the Diwan to the Rana of Porbandar, and their combined forces marched against the insurgents, but had to return defeated. The Nawab saw how utterly weak and incompetent he was without the co-operation of the brave and politic Nagars and for that reason he had once more to take recourse to Durlabhji and Raghunathji, who were entrusted with their old work. After the arrival of these two Nagars in Junagarh they evolved order out of chaos and marching against the rebels, at once put them down. The Arabs, whose payments had fallen into arrears, imprisoned the Nawab in his Rangmahal in 1788, but unnoticed by his guards, the Nawab contrived to effect his escape and with the help of other troops dispersed the bands of the disaffected Arabs. One of their bands in Chorwad had contrived to create some disturbance there too, but they were soon vanquished by the Nawab's troops, who captured also the fort of Chorwad.

In 1792 a Sindhi Jamadar, Hamid Khan, arrived in Kathiawad at the head of the Gaekwadi troops to levy tribute from the chieftains and overran the country up to the very gates of Verawal. He made preparations to march upon Junagarh too, and lay encamped at a short distance from the capital. Nawab Hamid Khan lost no time in making an onslaught upon them and in the encounter the Jamadar was killed, and the Gaekwadi troops had to beat a retreat. It was under the able administration of Amarji and his sons that the State of Junagarh had become so prosperous. They had not only preserved but increased its territorial extent. Notwithstanding such meritorious services, the Nawab placed no confidence in them. Besides, Kumbhaji, the Thakore of Gondal, and some officers of the State did not wish that the Nagars should be in the good graces of the Nawab. In 1793 these detractors once more succeeded in alienating him from Raghunathji, who was again put under restraint with his brother and sons and their property was confiscated. Of the members of the Diwan's family thus imprisoned, Prabhashanker and Dayalji were put to death, while the rest were released. Ranchhodji proceeded to Nawanagar, where he was

welcomed by Jam Jasaji, who bestowed upon him the *Jagirs* of Paddhari and Atkot ; Durlabhji went to Bhavnagar, where Maharaja Vakhatsinhji conferred upon him the *Jagir* of four villages ; Mangalji, the son of Govindji, who was a mere boy, had all his property plundered and confiscated : he then went to Porbandar and afterwards took up service under the Jam Saheb of Nawanagar.

Nawab Saheb Hamad Khanji now conferred the Diwangiri jointly upon Kalyan Sheth and Madhavrai, a Nagar Brahmin of Gujarat. In 1794 Vakhatsinhji, the Thakore Saheb of Bhavnagar, ousted the *Thandar* of Junagarh from Chital and posted one of his own in his stead. Kalyan Sheth and Madhavrai did not pull on well together. After a short time Madhavrai leaving Junagarh, seized upon Vanthali. The Nawab thereupon sought the assistance of Raghunathji, who despatched his brother, Ranchhodji from Nawanagar to Junagarh. He invaded Vanthali and Madhavrai was expelled from it. He went over to Gondal and sought shelter under Kumbhaji. Ranchhodji then returned to Nawanagar in the month of June 1795. Rajkumwarbai, the Bibi of the Nawab, gave birth to a son, who was named Bahadur Khanji.

In 1796 Vakhatsingji of Bhavnagar reduced to submission the *Paragnas* of Kundla and Rajula. Nawab Saheb marched against him with his army, but Kalyan Sheth effected a reconciliation between the rival chiefs. In 1798 Jamadar Amin marched upon Junagarh at the head of the Gaekwadi troops to avenge the death of his father, Hamid Khan, and succeeded in exacting a tribute from the State. The Kathi chiefs and Babi Mukhtiyar Khan of Bantwa afterwards made a common cause and began plundering the territory of the Nawab. He obtained the assistance of the Nawanagar and Porbandar troops and they eventually succeeded in dispersing the insurgent chiefs.

In the winter of 1807 Colonel Walker the Resident of Baroda and Babaji Apaji, the Diwan to H. H. the Gaekwad, arrived in Kathiawad to fix the amount of the tribute levied from the different chiefs in the province. They moved about the whole peninsula upto 1809 and determined the amount of tribute. It was at this time that a fixed amount of money payment was substituted in the place of '*Zortalabi*,' a *Mak* which the Nawab of Junagarh had imposed upon the chiefs of Kathiawad. Nawab Hamad Khanji died in the year 1811, at the age of 44 years, and was succeeded by Bahadur Khan, who was then 18 years old. In 1812 the combined

armies of the English and the Gaekwad marched against Junagarh and lay encamped near Lalvad, at a distance of 8 miles from the metropolis. They demanded from the Nawab a *Hak* called the *Nazarana* but he resisted. After considerable protestation the Nawab agreed to part with the *Paragnas* of Amreli and Kodinar and passed a document to that effect in favour of H. H. the Gaekwad.

In 1816 Jamadar Omar Mukhasam rose against the Nawab. Diwan Ranchhodji summoned the English to his assistance and accordingly Captain Ballantyne arrived in Junagarh with a party of British troops. He expelled the insurgents out of the territory of Junagarh. In return the Nawab relinquished his right to '*Zortalabi*' on the districts of Dhandhuka, Ranpur, Dholera and Gogha.

The money payment, which was substituted in lieu of '*Zortalabi*', a *Hak* levied from the chiefs of Kathiawad during the time of Hamad Khanji, was directly assessed by the Nawab till 1820. In 1821 a new arrangement was entered into by which the work of assessing the *Hak* on behalf of the Junagarh State was entrusted to the English. The British Government agreed to deduct $\frac{1}{4}$ of the whole amount in consideration of the trouble and expense which they were put to, and deliver the remaining $\frac{3}{4}$ share to the Nawab.

The Junagarh militia began to plunder as of old the neighbouring districts. Mr. Barnwell, the Political Agent of Kathiawad, sent a detachment under Mr. Blaine to Junagarh to dissuade the army from harassing the neighbouring chiefs. He imposed upon the Nawab a heavy penalty of 685000 Kories by way of compensation for the damage done by his troops. After Mr. Barnwell's return to England in 1828 Mr. Blaine was appointed Political Agent of the province.

In 1838 the Nawab put a stop to the cruel practice of "*suttee*" within his dominions.

Nawab Bahadur Khanji after a rule extending over 29 years died in 1840, at the age of 45. He had two sons, Hamad Khanji and Mahobat Khanji, of whom the elder, Hamad Khanji, succeeded him. He was then only 12 years old. On his attaining the age of majority, he introduced several reforms in his State. Written applications were made compulsory instead of oral petitions and he enjoined his officers to reply to such applications in writing. In 1847 Vagher Vidho Manek of Okha and Rabari Rudo went

into outlawry against the British Government, and they shot one of their officers, named Captain Loch. In 1849 Rudo, and shortly after him Vidho Manek, surrendered themselves to the Paramount Power. The Nawab of Junagarh rendered valuable assistance to the English in arresting these free-booters.

Nawab Hamad Khanji died in 1851, at the tender age of 23, after reigning for a period of 11 years. He fell a victim to consumption. As he died without issue, his younger brother, Mahobat Khanji, succeeded him. He was then only 14 years old. Colonel Lung, the Political Agent of Kathiawad, appointed a Council to carry on the administration during the Nawab's minority. In 1858 on the Nawab's attaining majority, he was entrusted with full powers over his dominions.

Mahobat Khanji was born on May 21st 1837. The name of his mother was Najo Bibi. His father had, at the time of his death, left him a mere infant under the care of his brother, Hamad Khanji. The elder brother, however, treated him with uncommon harshness and kept him always under restraint. He was wedded to Princess Kamalbakht Sahob, the daughter of Joravar Khanji, the Nawab of Radhanpur. The wedding day approaching nigh, Hamad Khanji prevented his brother from proceeding to Radhanpur. At last through the intercession of the nobility it was resolved to allow Mahobat Khan to proceed to Radhanpur, but after his return he was again to be put under restraint. Mahobat Khanji accordingly went to Radhanpur, married the princess and set out for his territory. While returning he learnt the news of his brother's death. This was to a certain extent a welcome piece of intelligence to him, for the horror of passing his days in confinement had thus terminated. The undreamt of Nawabi seemed to swim before his eyes. 'Inscrutable are the ways of Providence,' thought the newly married Nawab. He made a triumphant entry into Junagarh and was installed on the *masnad* with great *clat* on 11th August 1851. Though he assumed the title of the Nawab, the real power and influence rested with Majibu and Chaitibu. Majibu was the Nawab's step-mother while Chaitibu was her favourite. The entire power in the State was usurped by these two powerful women, while the Nawab was a mere State prisoner in their hands. Mahobat Khanji apprised Colonel Barr, the then Political Agent of Kathiawad, of his miserable situation and the oppressive rule of the two Bus, whereupon that officer directed his assistant, Mr. Colson, to proceed to Junagarh and set the matter right.

Colonel Barr soon after followed his assistant in person and releasing Mahobat Khanji from his restraint, admitted him into the royal palace. He also issued peremptory orders that the Bus and their adherents should on no account enter the precincts of the Nawab's residence. The Imperial Government in recognition of the Nawab's friendship and loyalty bestowed upon him in 1862 the *Sanal* of adoption, whereby he and his descendants were empowered, in the absence of a natural born heir to the Junagarh throne, to adopt an heir without the payment of the customary *Nazarana* (grant).


Mahobat Khanji visited Bombay thrice and attended the Darbars held on the occasions of the arrival of H. H. the Duke of Edinburgh, second son to H. I. M. the Queen Empress in 1870, the investiture of the Begam of Bhopal with the title of the Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India in the year 1872, and the arrival of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales in 1876. He also responded to the invitation of H. E. the Viceroy by attending the Imperial Assemblage held at Delhi on January 1st 1877. The salute to which he was entitled was raised from 11 to 15 guns, and a royal standard was also presented to him in course of time. The Nawab travelled over the greater part of India, visiting among other places Delhi, Agra, Lucknow, Benares, Allahabad, Bombay, Cawnpur and other important cities.

He introduced several reforms in the administration of Justice, abolished many unnecessary and oppressive taxes and improved the roads. He appointed Vahivatdars for the assessment of land revenue; discontinued the system of farming the districts, in which the farmers mercilessly extorted money from the penniless ryots and reduced them to starvation. Laws were codified and circulars framed for the proper administration of Justice. He also established several departments connected with Police, Public Works, Medicine, Education and Municipality. He also founded libraries and set up a printing Press. He enhanced the beauty and prosperity of his capital by undertaking grand and costly Public Works, such as the building of palaces, colleges, schools, gardens, pleasure-houses, forts, bridges, Dharmashalas (inns) and hundreds of such other works of public utility. His liberality was not confined to the four corners of his domains. He generously endowed handsome scholarships in the chief centres of learning, patronised good writers by affording them pecuniary help and established schools, libraries, dispensaries, societies, gardens

and Travellers' Bungalows. He is also said to have supported some leading men in indigent circumstances by giving them large sums of money. In all these works of public utility undertaken by H. H. the Nawab no small credit is due to the late Khan Bahadur Jamadar Saleh Bin Salam Hindi C. S. I. and Vazir Bavdin Bhai C. I. E.

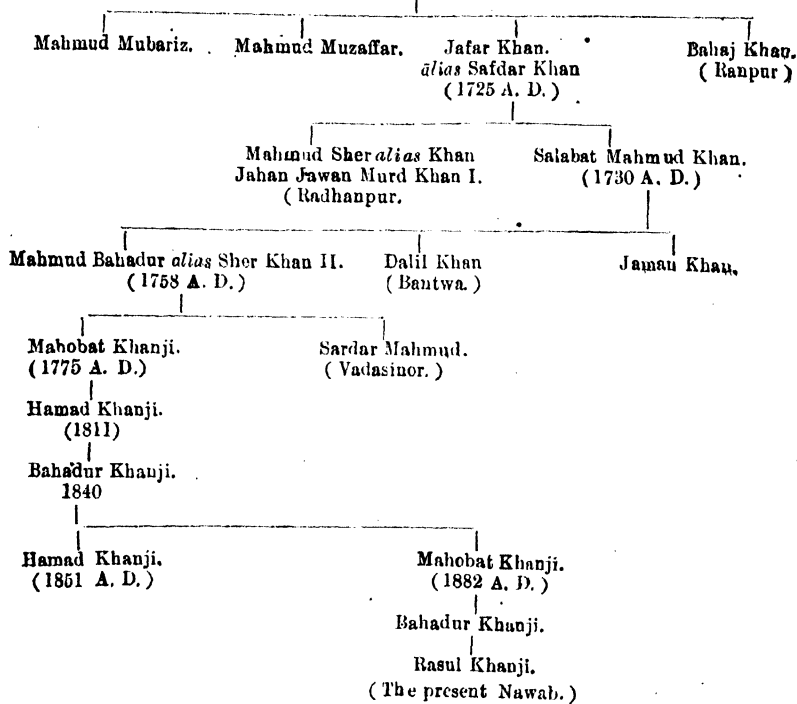
It is only where a monarch is surrounded by good and wise counsellors that such important works are undertaken, and in the present case these two highly intelligent and trustworthy officers by their wise counsels won for their master, the well-meaning Mahobat Khanji, high encomiums from all those who came in contact with him.

H. H. Sir Mahobat Khan K. C. S. I. after reigning for 31 years died at the age of 45, on 30th September 1882. He was succeeded by his son, Bahadur Khanji. He had received liberal education at the Rajkot Rajkumar College. The administration of Junagarh was carried on by the Diwan, Haridas Viharidas, assisted by Vazir Bavdin Bhai C. I. E. Several important reforms were introduced for the better government of the State. A railway line was constructed between Jetpur and Verawal, which proved a complete success. H. H. Nawab Bahadur Khanji was for all these acts of public utility honored by the Imperial Government with the title of K. C. S. I. He, however, did not live long to enjoy all these well merited distinctions. In the midst of his career of public usefulness, he was carried away by the cruel hand of death on 27 January 1892. After his death a dispute for succession arose between the eldest son of Mahobat Khanji, born of the Radhanpur Begam, and Prince Rasul Khanji; but the claims of the latter were recognised by the Paramount Power, and he was installed on the *gadi*. H. H. Nawab Rasul Khanji is a first class chief and enjoys full civil and criminal powers within his territories. The State is entitled to a salute of 11 guns, though the late Nawab enjoyed, as a personal distinction, a salute of 15 guns.



Bahadur Khanji.

Sher Khanji.



Residence.—Junāgarh, Kāthiawad ; Bombay Presidency.



NAWANAGAR.

Area.—3,791 sq. miles. Population.—316,147.

Revenue.—24,00,000 rupees.

Nawanagar is bounded on the north by the Gulf of Kutch and beyond it by Kutch proper ; on the east by the Native States of Morvi, Dhrol and Rajkot ; on the south by the minor Talukas in Halar and the State of Porbandar ; while on the west by Okhamandal and the Arabian Sea.

The Jam Saheb of Nawanagar belongs to the Jadeja tribe of Rajputs of the Lunar race. In the Yadav family, fifty-four degrees removed from Shri Adya Narayan * (the primeval Lord), there flourished the celebrated Shri Krishna, believed to be the incarnation of God Vishnu. He established himself in Dwarka, where even up to the present day his image is worshipped as God. He had a son, named Samba, by his wife, Jambuvanti, who married Rama, the daughter of Kaubhand, prime minister to Banasur, † the king of Shonitpur in Egypt. He had a son by this wife, named Ushnik. When the Yadavas destroyed themselves Ushnik was in Shonitpur and thus escaped destruction. Banasur was after his death succeeded by Kaubhand and after his death Ushnik ascended the throne of Shonitpur. Devendra flourished in his line, 79th degree removed from him. He had four sons Aspat (Ugrasen) Gajpat, Narpat, and Bhupat. Of these Aspat embraced Mahomedanism ; the descendants of Gajpat, established a large kingdom in Sorath and came to be known by the name of Chudasama after his son, Chud Chandra. Bhupat seized upon certain tracts in Marwad and became the founder of the Bhatti dynasty. The rulers of Jesalmere are his descendants. Narpat, his third son, assumed the title of Jam, having killed Feroze Shah, the ruling sovereign of Ghazni, and usurped his throne.

Sultan Saheb, the son of Feroze Shah, succeeded in recapturing Ghazni from Samat, the son of Narpat, who thereupon fled to Sindh and there established an independent principality. His descendants assumed the name of 'Sama' after him, leaving aside the appellation of 'Yadav.' In his line, nine degrees removed from him, there flourished one Lakhiyar Bhad. He at the instance of one Nagar Mohoh founded a city and named

* Yadu preceded Shri Krishna, being 44th in descent from Adya Narayan. The Yadavas derived their name from this Yadu.

† Aniruddha, the grandson of Shri Krishna, had married Okha, the daughter of Banasur.

it Nagar Samai, to perpetuate the memory of himself and his Sama descendants and made it his capital. It is now known by the name of Nagar Thatha. Lakhiyar Bhad, had a son, named Lakho Ghuraro. He had married princess Bothi, the daughter of Viramdev, the Chavada ruler of Patgarh in Kutch. This marriage was blessed with four sons, of whom Mod and Manai stayed in Kutch with their uncle. They treacherously murdered him and seized his throne. In the line of Mod, fourth degree removed from him, flourished Lakho Phulani. He, dying without issue, was succeeded by his nephew, Puwaro, the son of Jam Ghao. He also died childless and Lakhaji and Lakhdhir, the sons of Jam Jado, the then reigning prince of Sindh, sixth in descent from Unand, the step-brother of Mod and Manai, were summoned to the throne of Kutch (1147). They were the sons of Veroji, though they were adopted by Jam Jado. It was from this chief that his descendants assumed the patronymic of Jadejas. It is also said that Lakhaji and Lakhdhir were twin brothers. In the Sindhi language such twin-born brothers are styled ' Jado ' and it must be owing to this circumstance that their descendants assumed the name of Jadeja.* Whatever may be the origin of the name it is unquestionable that the Jadejas came into existence for the first time from this date.

Raydhanji, the son of Jam Lakhaji, had four sons Dedoji, Othoji, Gajanji and Hothiji. Of them, Dedoji received Kanthkot; Othoji got Lakhiyar Viyaro (Bhuj) the then capital of Kutch, Gajanji received Bada paragna; while Hothiji was given Gajod and twelve villages. These brothers also assumed the title of ' Jam.'

Hamirji was eighth in descent from Othoji, who had inherited the throne of Kutch. He treacherously murdered Lakhoji, tenth in descent from Gajanji of Bada. Jam Lakhoji had four sons, Jam Rawal, Hardholji, Rawaji and Modji. They avenged the murder of their father by killing Hamirji and conquering his dominions.

Hamirji had four sons, Aliyoji, Khengarji, Raybji and Sahebji and a daughter, named Kamabai. The princess was given in marriage to the celebrated Mahmud Begara, the Emperor of Ahmedabad. The four princes with the help of their Moslem kinsman, Mahmud Begara, conquered

* There is a couplet which runs:—

Lakho and Lakhdhir, they were born twins,

Lakho the eldest of Veroji, hence were they called Jadejas.

Kutch from Jam Rawal. Khengarji,* the bravest of them all, was installed on the *gadi* with the title of 'Rao'.

After the defeat and dethronement of Jam Rawal, he with his three brothers, Hardholji, Rawaji, and Modji, crossed the *Runn* and settled in Saurashtra, *i-e* Sorath, in 1535. At that time the whole peninsula of Kathiawad went by the name of Saurashtra. All the territory on the banks of the Aji was then held by Deda Tamachi, a descendant of Dadarji. The Jams requested him to supply them with provisions. Deda Tamachi sent cattle loaded with dust instead of grain. This was enough to enrage Jam Rawal, but his brother, Hardholji, thinking it inadvisable to take any action at such an inauspicious† moment, they encamped with their troops at Dahisara, near Amran. They gradually conquered the whole territory of Deda Tamachi, situated on the banks of the Aji, and then by degrees they began overrunning the surrounding districts. They subsequently established their independent authority over Nagna Bandar and the adjacent territory, which they conquered from Khemaji, the Jethwa Chief of Ranpur. Ranpur was then the seat of government of the Jethwa rulers of Porbandar. Jam Rawal in 1539 founded the city of Nawanagar on the site of Nagna Bandar. In addition to the territory they obtained from the Jethwas, the Jam brothers succeeded in subjugating the eastern districts, then held by Chavadas. They reduced to submission the western territory, including Khambhalia, from the Deda and the Vadhela tribes. They were thus able to consolidate a vast kingdom in a very short time, to which they gave the name of Halar, in honour of Halaji, the son of Gajanji, who had inherited the district of Bada in Kutch.

Hardholji, Rawaji and Modji, the three brothers of Jam Rawal, who had also left Kutch with him, received in appanage the *Paragnas* of Dhrol Khelor, and Khedera with twelve other villages attached to each of them. Colonel Walker on the other hand says that Hardholji conquered from the Chavada chieftain Dhrol with 140 villages and established an independent principality.

Jam Rawal died in 1562. His eldest son, Jiyoji, had died during the Jam's life-time, leaving a son, named Lakhaji. He was, however, superseded

* The descendants of Khengarji are still ruling over Kutch. It was this Khengarji, who in 1549 founded the city of Bhuj and transferred his seat of government from Lakhijar Viyaro to Bhuj, which still continues to be the metropolis of Kutch.

† Dust is considered a bad omen.

by his uncle, Jam Vibhaji, the second son of Jam Rawal, who ascended the throne. Jam Vibhaji ruled for 7 years and died in 1569. He had four sons, Sataji, Rammalji, Bhanji and Veraji. Of these Sataji, the eldest, succeeded to the throne, while the other princes got the districts of Sisang, Virpur, and Hadiana with twelve villages appended to each.

On the death of Khimaji, the Jethwa Chief of Ranpur, in 1550, he was succeeded by Ramdeji. He was the son of Jam Sataji's sister. In spite of such a close relationship, the Jam thought of seizing the whole territory of the Jethwa Chief and accordingly invited Ramdeji to his court at Nawanagar. Ramdeji did not visit his uncle for a time, as he was all the while suspecting his sincerity. At last in 1574, he was prevailed upon by a Charan, named Kavidas, to accept the invitation of the Jam. The unfortunate Jethwa Chief was treacherously murdered and the wily Jam sent an army to Ranpur, which fell into his hands without any resistance. Jam Sataji stamped one of his own coins and placing it in a bag with the King's coin, sent it to Muzaffar Shah III. with the following message. 'The Rajputs give their daughters in marriage to you. I give my daughter, coin, in marriage to your imperial coin.' The Moslem ruler was highly elated with this vein of flattery and accorded the Jam the permission of stamping his own coins. This coin was formerly called 'Kunwari' (Princess) but subsequently it lost its distinguishing name and came to be known as 'Kori'.

In 1573 the great Mughal Emperor, Akbar, conquered Gujarat from the hands of Muzaffar III. who escaped to Rajpipla. Shah-bud-din Ahmud Khan, the representative of the Mughal Emperor in Gujarat, sent an army in 1577 against Amin Khan, the Suba of Junagarh. Amin Khan then asked for the assistance of Jam Sataji. Their combined troops succeeded in driving away the invading army. In return, the Suba of Junagarh bestowed upon the Jam the districts of Jodhpur, Chur and Bhod.

The fugitive monarch of Gujarat, Muzaffar Shah III. fled towards Rajpipla in 1573. He arrived at the court of Nawanagar in 1591 and sought the assistance of Sataji. Ajij Koka, the Mughal Suba of Gujarat, hearing this, marched upon Nawanagar to apprehend him. Jam Sataji, with his second son, Jasaji, met the approaching army near Dhrol. Dolat Khan the son of Amin Khan of Junagarh, and Loma Khuman a brave Kathi of Kundla, proceeded to reinforce the Jam's troops. The rival armies met on the outskirts of Dhrol and a bloody battle ensued. The contest commenced

early in the dawn and lasted till midday without any decisive result. Dolat Khan and Loma Khuman at last deserting the Jam's cause, left the field of battle. The Jam's army, rendered spiritless by such desertion, began to give in. The Jam, who was then seated on an elephant, alighted and at once fled to Nawanagar on horse-back. Prince Jasaji and the Diwan, however, rallied the troops and maintained the field against the Moslem invaders. Ajaji, the eldest son of Sataji, who had stayed back in the capital on account of his approaching marriage, hearing of the cowardly flight of his father, at once rode to the scene of action. On Ajaji's reaching Dhrol, the contest between the Musalmans under Ajij Koka and the Jadejas under their new leader, Ajaji, grew more fierce than before. In this *mêlée* Ajaji and the Diwan fell and many of the *alifs* that had come to the succour of the Jam were either killed or wounded. Jasaji had now to fight single-handed against such fearful odds. Thinking defeat to be inevitable, he fled to Nagar with his remaining troops. Ajij Koka followed him thither, whereupon Jam Sataji packed off all his wives in boats, with instructions that if the Mahomedans should overtake them, they must drown the boats in the sea and thus perish in the waves. He himself took refuge in the neighbouring hills. Ajij Koka made his triumphant entry into Nawanagar unopposed and unfurled the Moslem standard on the walls of the Jam's capital. He placed several *Thanas* (outposts) in the surrounding districts.

Kalanbai, the wife of Bhanji, who was the son of Ramde, the late Jethwa Chief of Ranpir, taking advantage of Jam Sataji's absence, raised an army consisting of Mers and Rabaris and regained her lost territory as far as Ranpur. She made Chhanya her capital and proclaimed her son, Khimaji, the lord of the new principality. The Jams have never been able subsequently to reconquer this chieftdom.

Ajij Koka once more marched against Nawanagar within a short space of eight months. Jam Sataji agreed to pay tribute to the Emperor and a peace was concluded between them, by which the territory of Nawanagar was restored to Sataji. After a short time Ajij Koka learning that Muzaffar Shah was flying about in Okhamandal, sent a small detachment after him, under the command of Naurang Khan. Muzaffar fled to Kutch on the approach of Naurang Khan to Okhamandal. Koka sent his son, Abdul Khan, to Kutch in pursuit of the flying monarch. Rao Bharmalji had given shelter to the unfortunate Muzaffar at his court, but fearing an invasion from the Suba of Gujarat, he handed over his refugee to Abdul Khan. On his

way to Ahmedabad, Muzaffar terminated his life by cutting his throat with a razor.

Jam Sataji, after reigning for 49 years, died in 1608. He had three sons, Ajaji, Jasaji, and Vibhaji. Of these the eldest, Ajaji, had fallen on the field of Dhrol, while fiercely fighting with the Mussalmans, leaving behind him two sons, Lakhaji and Vibhaji. Jasaji, the uncle, ascended the throne, setting aside the claims of his two nephews. He bestowed the district of Kalawad upon his younger brother, Vibhaji. The chief of Sardhar was related to him (Vibhaji) on his mother's side. He conquered Sardhar and Rajkot with the help of his brother, Jam Jasaji, and founded an independent sovereignty. In return, Vibhaji restored to Jam Jasaji the district of Kalawad and other villages which were previously conferred upon him. Jam Jasaji had married the sister of Chandrasinhji, the Raj of Halwad. Once while playing at chess with the Jhala queen the Jam captured her knight (horse in Gujarati). The queen in anger retorted. 'It is no great thing for you to seize a horse from me, a woman, but if you can take a horse from my brother, then you are indeed a Raja.' The Jam bore this insulting retort in mind and when after a few days he happened to send some of his courtiers to the court of Halwad on a visit of condolence to the Raj on the death of one of his sons, the Jam secretly advised them to capture Chandrasinhji and bring him a prisoner to Nawanagar. His mandate was obeyed to the very letter, but one Shankardas, a Nagarby caste, intervened in favour of Chandrasinhji and obtaining his release, sent him back to Halwad. The Jhala queen was not a woman of an ordinary type. Stung to the quick at the indignity thus offered to her brother, she avenged the insult by poisoning her husband, Jam Jasaji, in 1624.

Jam Jasaji died without issue and was succeeded by his nephew, Lakhaji. This was the same Lakhaji, who was superseded by Jasaji after the death of Jam Sataji. In the reign of Emperor Shah Jehan, who was on the Imperial *Masnad*, when Lakhaji assumed the reins of government at Nawanagar a succession of *effete* Subas carried on the government of Gujarat. Jam Lakhaji taking advantage of this circumstance, increased his army, extended the circulation of Kories and stopped the payment of the Imperial tribute. Ajam Khan was shortly after appointed Suba of Gujarat. He marched upon Nawanagar and collecting all the outstanding tribute, stopped the circulation of Kories. Immediately after his departure, however, the Kories were circulated as freely as before.

Jam Lakhaji died in 1645, leaving behind him seven sons, of whom the eldest, Rannmalji, succeeded him. He bestowed upon his brothers, Raysinhji, Jasaji, Harbhamji, Kasanji and Sataji, the *Jagirs* of Amran, Dhrapah, Mokhana, Bed, and Khan-kotda respectively. One of his brothers, Dungarji, had died in childhood. Jam Rannmalji died in 1661. Nothing worth recording is known of him save that he was married to the daughter of the Maharaja of Jodhpur.

Jam Rannmalji died childless and was succeeded by Raysinhji, who had obtained the *Jagir* of Amran. The succession of Raysinhji deprived the queen-dowager, the widow of Rannmalji, of all her influence. She therefore went with her brother to Ahmedabad, obtained an interview with Kut-bud-Din, the then reigning Suba of Gujarat, and incited him to march upon Nawanagar. In a fierce battle that took place in 1664, between the Suba and the Jam, the latter lost his life, and Nawanagar fell into the hands of the victors.

Raysinhji had at the time of his death a son, named Tamachi: but as he was still a mere boy he had to seek shelter at the court of Pragmalji, then reigning in Kutch. When he became of age he went to Okhamandal and began to plunder the territory under Nawanagar. At last in 1673 on the recommendation of Jaswantsinhji, the Suba of Gujarat, Emperor Aurangzeb restored to Jam Tamachi all his dominions. Rao Pragmalji of Kutch also assisted Tamachi in regaining his lost domains. Though the territory of Nawanagar was restored to Tamachi in its entirety, a Mahomedan officer still remained at Nawanagar. The Jam therefore took up his residence at Khambhalia. He gave to his brother, Falji, the Giras of Bhanvad.

Jam Tamachi died in 1690, and was succeeded by Jam Lakhaji, who after reigning for 19 years died in 1709. He had two sons, Raysinhji and Hardholji, of whom the elder, Raysinhji, succeeded to the throne, while to Hardholji was given the *Jagir* of Hadiana. Jam Raysinhji expelled the Mughal officer out of Nawanagar and himself changed his residence from Khambhalia to Nawanagar. Ajitsinhji, the Maharaja of Jodhpur, who was appointed Suba of Gujarat in 1715-16, marched upon Halwad and Nawanagar. The Jam paid a tribute of 3 *lakhs* of rupees and presented him with 25 of his best horses. Ajitsinhji, pleased with the friendly conduct of the Jam, returned to Ahmedabad after paying homage to the deity at Dwarka. In 1718, Hardholji, the Giras holder of Hadiana, killed

his brother, Jam Raysinhji, and usurped his throne. Jam Raysinhji had a son, named Tamachi, but as he was then quite an infant, one of the maids-of-honor concealed him in a box, took him to Bhuj and entrusted him to the care of his aunt, Ratnajiba. The mother of Tamachi was the sister of Pratapsinhji, the chief of Halwad. With a view to advance the claim of his nephew to the throne of Nawanagar, Pratapsinhji married one of his daughters to Sher Buland Khan, the Suba of Gujarat, and gave the hand of his brother's daughter in marriage to Babi Salabat Mahmud Khan. With the help of these two Moslem officers he succeeded in seating his nephew, Tamachi, on the throne of Nawanagar (1727).

Jam Tamachi II. gave in mortgage the districts of Balambha, Amran and others to Rao Desalji of Bhuj. The Rao caused a large citadel to be built at Balambha in 1737. Mirza Jafar *alias* Momin Khan, the Mughal Suba of Gujarat, invaded Nawanagar in 1742. The Jam marched against the Suba, who was however prevailed upon to return on the payment of a tribute of Rs. 50,000 by the Jam.

Jam Tamachi's father, Raysinhji, was as before stated murdered by his brother Hardholji. The new Jam, afraid of meeting with the same fate at the hands of some of his Bhayads, ordered them to leave the metropolis and settle with their families in the villages allotted to them in Giras. Such an order highly enraged the Bhayads, who under the leadership of one Halaji of Padadhari, popularly known by the name of 'Kakabhai,' resolved upon taking the life of Jam Tamachi. He set up one Kishansinhji of Wadhwan to go to the palace, attended by his retinue, to pay respects to the Jam Saheb. Kishansinh was admitted into the presence of Jam Tamachi, who was killed there on the spot (1743).

Jam Tamachi did not leave behind him a son, though he had a daughter, by name Raj Kunwarba. She was married to Ramsinhji, the Maharaja of Jodhpur. This lady happened to be in Nagar at the time of Tamachi's murder. She cleverly dressed up the corpse of her father and made him sit by a window to delude the people into the belief that Tamachi was alive. She at the same time advised all the widows of Tamachi that they should each take a boy in adoption and represent him to be his natural born son. Her step-mothers did as they were told to do, and of these adopted sons, Lakhaji was represented to be the eldest and was seated on the throne of Nawanagar.

Jam Lakhaji was married to Jawuba, the daughter of Raysinhji, the Raj of Halwad. When the new queen went to Nawanagar, her father sent with her as personal attendants three brothers, Nanji, Bhawan and Meheraman *alias* Meheru, all sons of a Khawas, named Aja. Meheraman was such an intelligent and gifted young man that the Jam became no more than a mere puppet in his hands. Jawuba could not brook the rising influence of the Khawas brothers and she ordered the eldest, Nanji, to be killed and closed the gates of the palace against Bhawan and Meheru. Meheraman was not a man to be daunted by such obstacles thrown in his way. He got into the precincts of the palace by jumping over the walls by climbing on the shoulders of his men and imprisoned his fair foe, Jawuba.

Meheraman from that day became a formidable figure in the politics of Nawanagar and within a few days he assumed the sole administration of the State. In 1768, Jam Lakhaji died, leaving behind him two sons, Jasaji and Sataji. Of these, Jasaji was installed on the throne by Meheraman, who kept the reins of government into his hands.

At that time Rao Godaji of Kutch prepared a large army and proceeded to Nawanagar. Demanding some tangible recognition of the material help rendered by the Rao to Jam Tamachi, he wrote a threatening letter to Meheraman, who did not seem in the least disconcerted at the approaching army. He, on the contrary, anticipated the Rao by attacking and seizing the fortress of Bulambha. He subsequently marched against Halaji (Kakabhai) of Padadhari and laid siege to Modhpur. He defeated and killed Halaji and captured the citadel.

Jawuba was still more incensed at the ever increasing power and influence of her menial, Meheraman, and under the pretext of proceeding on a pilgrimage, she repaired to Halwad. From that place she began to devise means for the dismissal of Meheraman from Nawanagar. Meheraman, when he came to know of it, went personally to Halwad and persuaded Jawuba to return with him to Nawanagar. On the day they reached the metropolis, he caused the death of that imperious lady, Jawuba. Meheraman had now no one left to obstruct him in the exercise of his independent authority. After a short time Meheraman with the help of Amarji, the Diwan of Junagarh, marched against the Vaghers of Okhamandal and besieging Positra, took it. Meheraman also threatened to attack and demolish Bhetali, a new fortress built by the Rana of Porbandar, but on the Rana's undertaking to raze it to the ground, he returned to Nawanagar.

Meheraman once thought of getting rid of one of his greatest rivals in the peninsula, Diwan Amarji of Junagarh, by poisoning him. He once invited the Diwan to Khambhalia to carry out that foul purpose, but Amarji, diving through his wicked intention, at once returned to Junagarh.

In 1783, Meheraman marched against Amarji. In the contest that took place between them at Panch Pipla, Meheru had to return defeated. He at last with the help of the Gackwadi troops captured the fort of Devda, but even that he had to give up after a short time.

A spirit of bitter rivalry raged between the two great master minds of Kathiawad, Amarji of Junagarh and Meheraman of Nawanagar. Each began to contrive plans for the other's destruction. After all they were both reconciled to each other. At that time the whole peninsula of Kathiawad trembled at the names of Amarji, the Diwan of Junagarh, Vakhatsinhji, the Thakore Saheb of Bhavnagar, Meheraman, the premier of Nawanagar and Kumbhaji II., the chief of Gondal. It must also be said to their credit that even to-day Junagarh, Bhavnagar, Nawanagar and Gondal owe their greatness to these master spirits. Amarji and Meheraman then proceeded against the Rana of Porbandar and plundered his territory.

When the celebrated Amarji was murdered on the *Holi* Holiday at the instigation of Nawab Hamad Khanji in 1785 and when his sons and brothers, flying from Junagarh, took refuge at Dhoraji, it was this Meheraman, who summoned Dalpatram, Raghunathji and Ranchhodji, the sons of the late Diwan, to Nawanagar, and entrusted them with high posts in the State.

In 1788 Meheraman caused a strong wall to be built behind the city to render it safer and stronger than before.

In 1792 Meheraman marched with a large army against the Kathis and vanquishing the chiefs of Santhali, Kotdapitha, Babra, Bhadli, Barwala, Anandpur, Bhadla and Jasdan, placed parties of Nawanagar troops at each of these stations. When Jam Jasaji went to Dhrangadra to celebrate his marriage with princess Achhuba, the daughter of Raj Gajsinhji, Vajsur, the Kathi Chief of Jasdan, gave the bride-groom Atkot as a wedding-gift. The Jam in return raised his out-post from Jasdan. Dado Khachar of Atkot, not agreeing to this arrangement, went into outlawry against Nawanagar. The astute Meheraman, shortly after, contrived to call him to Nawanagar and said that Atkot would be restored to him on condition that he would molest the Chief of Morvi, with whom the

Jam had lately fallen out. Dado Khachar accepted the proposal and went against the Morvi Chief at the head of the Nawanagar troops. He plundered the territory of Morvi on no less than three different occasions, but while returning from the last exploit, the Morvi troops surrounded him on all sides near Chotila. When he saw that he had merely to lead a forlorn hope against such fearful odds, he told his followers that only those who were prepared to die should go with him, while the rest were at liberty to go where they liked. Many of his troops deserted him at such a critical moment, while only 30 men resolutely stood by him. With these brave thirty he fell fiercely upon the Morvi army, but eventually they were all slaughtered to a man.

At that time Jam Jasaji was a mere state-prisoner in the hands of Meheraman. When he expressed to the Jadeja Bhayads his desire to free himself from the yoke of the Khawas minister, they in a body rose against the authority of Meheraman. Meheramanji of Rajkot, Dajibhai, the Thakore of Gondal, Modji, the Thakore of Dhrol, and Ranmalji, the Thakore of Khirsara were the ringleaders of this rising. Meheraman marched against the insurgent chiefs and laid waste the district of Sardhar under Rajkot. The Jadeja chiefs saw that they were not competent to cope single-handed with the powerful Meheraman. They thereupon called to their succour Jamadar Fattch Mahmud,* who was then the Vazir to the Rao of Kutch. Fattch Mahmud marched at the head of a large army from Kutch to the assistance of the Jadejas. Meheru sent his brother, Bhawan, with a detachment of the Nagar troops to oppose his progress.

Bhawan lay encamped near Khakhrabela, but Fattch Mahmud stealing a march upon Bhawan, went towards Padadhari. Bhawan followed him thither, but as Fattch Mahmud had brought with him a large army Bhawan had to fly back to Nawanagar defeated. Fattch Mahmud at that time overran the territory of Nagar upto the gates of Khambhalia and then returned to Kutch.

Meheraman seeing that Jam Jasaji and his wife, Achhuba, were secretly inciting these Jadeja chiefs day by day, kept a more vigilant eye over

Mod and Manai, the founders of Jadeja rule in Kutch, had a step-brother, named Unad, who was reigning in Sindh. His great-grand-son, Jam Raydhanji, had eight sons; of these one Notiyar embraced Islamism. This Fattch Mahmud was one of his descendants, several degrees removed from him. First of all he used to tend flocks of sheep, but being a clever and intelligent lad, he got a low paid appointment in Kutch. By degrees he rose to the

the actions and movements of the royal couple. The Jam burning with the desire of freeing himself from the shackles of the over-bearing minister, once more in 1794 called to his aid Jamadar Fattah Mahmud from Kutch and his Jadeja Bhayads, reigning at Rajkot, Dhirol and Gondal. It was at this juncture that a Peshwai force under Aba Shelukar had come into the province. Meheraman taking advantage of its presence, promised the general a large sum of money, if he agreed to lay waste the territory belonging to the Chief of Gondal. In the same year an interview took place between Meheraman and Nawab Hamad Khanji of Junagarh at Kalawad.

In 1795 Meheraman conquered the forts of Ganga and Gargadh from the hands of the Vaghers, residing in the eastern portion of the *Runn* of Okhamandal. Jam Jasaji, being completely in the hands of his minister and naturally of dull intellect, was not able to do anything to make his personality felt in the province.

When the Jam saw that his Bhayads were not strong enough to liberate him from the grip of his all powerful minister, he, with his brother, Sataji, left Nawanagar for Khambhalia. They went into the palace and shut the gates against all intruders. Meheraman followed them to Khambhalia and seeing the gates of the palace shut against him, directed a cannon against the window and threatened to blow up the palace with all the inmates. A certain Arab Jamadar intervened on behalf of the Jam and said that it ill behoved Meheraman to fire a cannon against his liege-lord. Meheraman, stung to the quick at such an appropriate remark, went up to the palace, entreated the gates to be opened and humbly entering the palace of his master, took up the Jam's slippers and placed them at his feet, resuming for a time the duty of a veritable Khawas. He persuaded the Jam to return to the capital in 1797.

In the same year (1797) Bhawan Khawas, the brother of Meheraman, died. After this, Meheraman fearing lest the Jadeja chiefs should one day deprive him of all his wealth and power, got the *Paragnas* of Jodia, Amran, and Balambha granted by a written instrument to him by his master, Jam Jasaji in the year 1798.

highest place of the Grand Vazir. When in 1809 a treaty was for the first time concluded between the English and the Rao of Kutch, Mr. Greenwood appeared on behalf of Colonel Walker, who represented the Paramount Power, while Fattah Mahmud represented Raydhanji II, the Rao of Kutch. These two officers fixed the final stipulations. Fattah Mahmud extended in a very short period the territory of Kutch, just as Meheraman did in Nawanagar.

Fatteh Mahmud shortly after arrived from Kutch and besieged the capital. The city was just on the point of falling into the hands of the invaders, when it was rescued by the sudden onslaught made by Meheraman and his trusty followers. Fatteh Mahmud had to raise the siege and return to Kutch.

In 1799 Jamadar Amin Saheb entered Kathiawad at the head of the Gackwadi troops to levy the outstanding tribute from the chiefs. He lay encamped near Vankaner. The Jamadar had a large army, while the Jadeja Bhayads of Kutch and Halar had made a common cause against Meheraman, so the astute Khawas, instead of opposing Amin Saheb, appeased him by the grant of the demanded tribute. Meheraman sent Ranchhodji with a large army against the Jadeja chief of Bhanwad, who was an ally of Fatteh Mahmud, but in the very first encounter Ranchhodji received a wound, which compelled him to return with his men to Nawanagar. Once more did Jamadar Fatteh Mahmud invest the Jam's capital, but this time Meheraman's conciliatory policy prevailed and the Jamadar returned to his own province.

In the year 1800, the celebrated Meheraman, who by sheer force of his character, intelligence and bravery had risen from the lowest rank of a menial (Khawas) to the highest place of the Diwan, nay the Jam *de facto*, died. He left behind him a son by a Mussalman concubine. His brother, Bhawan Khawas, had two sons, Sagramji and Pragji. They inherited the estates of Jodiya, Amran, and Balambha. The two brothers from that date went and settled there and founded a separate Taluka. Jam Jasaji was of course delighted at the death of his captor, Meheraman, but he was not so mean as to obstruct his descendants from taking possession of their appanage.

In 1801 Jam Jasaji invaded Jasdan and demolished the citadel. He also levied a cess, called the *Ashva Vero* (horse-tax). The Jam also exacted a *Nazarana* from the landholders of Kathiawad proper, Jhalawad and Gogha. He also encroached upon the estates of his neighbouring chiefs and Bhayads, who thereupon rose against him and betook themselves to outlawry for a short period.

The Rana of Porbandar had entrusted the task of protecting the fort of Kandorna against foreign invasion to Jamadar Murad Khan and Fakir Mahmud. They, however, sold it to the Jam in 1807. The Rana sought the assistance of the Gackwad and the English Government in regaining it.

Colonel Walker, the Resident of Baroda, went in person to **Kandorna** and capturing it from the Jam, restored it to the Rana.

Jam Jasaji refused to grant any appanage to his brother, Sataji. The latter whereupon applied to the British Resident at Baroda as well as to H. H. the Gaekwad for interference. Colonel Walker, the Resident, called upon the Jam to settle with his brother, to which he did not give any countenance. H. H. the Rao of Kutch also preferred certain claims against the Jam of Nawanagar and expressed his desire to entrust the whole matter to the arbitration of the English and the Gaekwad Governments. On this occasion, too, when these arbitrators made a reference to the Jam, he observed a defiant reticence. While all these disputes were going on, a certain Arab shot an English officer at Gopnath. The Jam harboured the culprit, and when ordered to give him up, treated the order with disdain. At last a combined army, under the command of Captain Carnac and Fattehsinh Rao Gaekwad, marched upon Nawanagar in 1812. After joining battle with the invading army for a short time, the Jam concluded a peace on the following stipulations:—(1) to surrender the Arab murderer to the British authorities, (2) to demolish the fortification of Modhpur, (3) to satisfy the claims of the Rao of Kutch, (4) to confer upon Sataji twelve neighbouring villages, including Ranpur, (5) to pay to the Gaekwad, Fattehsinh Rao, a succession duty of Rs. 25,000, and finally (6) to restore the Sarapdad district to the chief of Dhrol. No sooner were these and other minor provisions agreed upon than the invading armies returned to Baroda.

Jam Jasaji died in 1814. As he died childless, he was succeeded by his brother, Sataji. Jam Sataji had also no male issue, nor was there any likelihood of his getting one even thereafter. So Achhuba, the widow of the late Jam Jasaji, adopted Ranmalji, the son of Jadeja Jasaji of Sarodad, who ranked as one of the Bhayads of Nawanagar. Jam Jasaji had before his death directed that the administration of affairs should be entrusted to one Jagjivan Devji. Achhuba, however, was averse to this arrangement, and she set up a rival in the person of one Motiram Buch, who commenced to plot against Jagjivan. While such was the state of affairs, some Muscati Arabs obtained possession of Kandorna and Padadhari. Jagjivan Diwan sought the assistance of the English, who recaptured both these villages from the Muscati Arabs and restored them to Nawanagar in 1816. The Arabs fled and took refuge in the fort of Jodiya, then in the

hands of Sagram Khawas. Achhuba was too willing to wreak her vengeance upon the descendants of Meheraman, at whose hands she and her late husband had suffered so great an indignity. She therefore wrote to the British Resident and the Gaekwad that Sagram Khawas was sheltering her enemies in his stronghold and sought their intervention. An English detachment, under Mr. East, marched upon the fort of Jodiya. Sagram Khawas, losing all courage, fled to Morvi, leaving his territory to the mercy of the invaders. Afterwards owing to the intercession of the English and the Gaekwad, the Jam restored to Sagram Khawas the district of Amran only, which is to this day enjoyed by his descendants.

Jam Sataji died in 1820, succeeded by Ranmalji, the adopted son of Achhuba. During his reign Jamadar Fakir Mahmud, at the instigation of Achhuba and Motiram Buch, commenced to form intrigues for the purpose of appropriating to himself the real management of the state affairs. The Jam, however, was strong enough to expel him from the Nawanagar territory. Maharaja Jam Shri Ranmalji married in 1829 Princess Bai Rajaba, the daughter of Thakore Vajesinhji of Bhavnagar. When the subjects of the Jam were oppressed by famines in the years 1834, 1839 and 1846, Ranmalji, with a view to provide employment for the starving labourers, built the Kotha and Lakhota palaces at Nawanagar and excavated the tank near them. Jam Ranmalji was very fond of hunting. He killed several lions, tigers, leopards, and panthers.

Jam Ranmalji died in 1852. He had married eight wives, but Vibhaji, his son by Sonibai, succeeded to the throne. Vibhaji gave his sister in marriage to Maharaja Takhsinhji, then on the throne of Jodhpur, in 1854. While he married his daughter, Bai Rajba, to the heir-apparent, Jaswantsinhji, who is now the Maharaja of Jodhpur. The Jam was put to much expense in putting down the rising of the Vaghers of Okhamandal, in protecting his subjects from their raids and in rendering assistance to the English troops in capturing them. Mr. Popat Velji was at that time the Superintendent of Nawanagar Police. The Government conferred upon him the title of Rao Bahadur in recognition of the valuable support rendered by that officer to the English authorities. In 1862, Jam Shri Vibhaji, as a mark of appreciation of his good and liberal policy, received from the Government the *sanad* of adoption, whereby in the absence of a natural born son the Jam was permitted to adopt one without the payment of the customary duty (*Nazarana*).

In 1864, the Jam established in his State regular civil and criminal courts. He also introduced several reforms in the land revenue system in 1866. He went on a pilgrimage to the sacred cities of Nasik, Kashi, (Benares) Prayag (Allahabad,) Mathura (Muttra), Gayaji, and visited principal places such as Bombay and Calcutta. In 1871, on the occasion of the visit of H. E. Sir Seymour Fitzgerald, the Governor of Bombay, to Nawanagar, the Jam in honour of the gubernatorial visit got opened at his hands the water works, which he had already constructed in his capital. In 1876, Jam Shri Vibhaji went to Bombay to do honour to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, the heir-apparent to the throne of Great Britain and Ireland and the Empire of India. On January 1st 1877, the Jam attended the Imperial Assemblage held at Delhi in honour of H. I. M. Queen Victoria's assuming the title of Kaiser-i-Hind (Empress of India). The salute of the Jam was increased from 11 to 15 guns. He also received the banner from H. E. Lord Lytton, the Viceroy and Governor-General of India. On the 1st of January 1878 Sir J. B. Peile (then Mr. Peile) invested the Jam with the insignia of K. C. S. I. in a grand Darbar, held at Rajkot.

As the Jam had no son by any of his Rajput wives he in 1872, obtained the sanction of the Government to recognise Bhimsinh *alias* Kalubha, his son by one of his mistresses, Dhanbai, as his heir to the throne of Nawanagar. He agreed to give him sound education and equip him with all the necessary qualifications of a good ruler. All attempts made in that direction proving futile, the British Government disinherited him and at once ordered the removal of Kalubha and his son from Nawanagar to Ahmednagar in the Deccan. The Jam afterwards adopted one Umedsinh, the son of Jalamsinhji of Sarodad, one of his nearest Bhayads, and appointed him his heir with the name of Raysinhji, but unfortunately he died in the year 1879. The Jam afterwards adopted Ranjitsinhji, the son of Juwansinhji, Jalamsinhji's second son, and made him his heir. In 1882, however, Janbai, another mistress of the Jam and an aunt of Kalubha, gave birth to a son, named Jaswantsinhji. This infant prince was appointed heir to the throne of Nawanagar with the sanction of the British Government obtained in 1884.

Jam Shri Vibhaji introduced several reforms in the external and internal administration of his State. He discontinued the system of farming the *Paragnas*, which afforded ample scope to those farmers to

mercilessly squeeze the poor ryots, and appointed Vahivatdars instead. The Laws were codified and the administration of Justice underwent a material change. He also established several departments, connected with Police, Public Works, Medicine, Education and Municipality. The Jam Saheb earned a good name for himself by undertaking large works of public utility, such as schools, libraries, Dharmshalas (inns) gardens, pleasure-houses, bridges and the Printing Press. Jam Shri Vibhaji cultivated his taste for music and had in his employ hordes of native musicians.

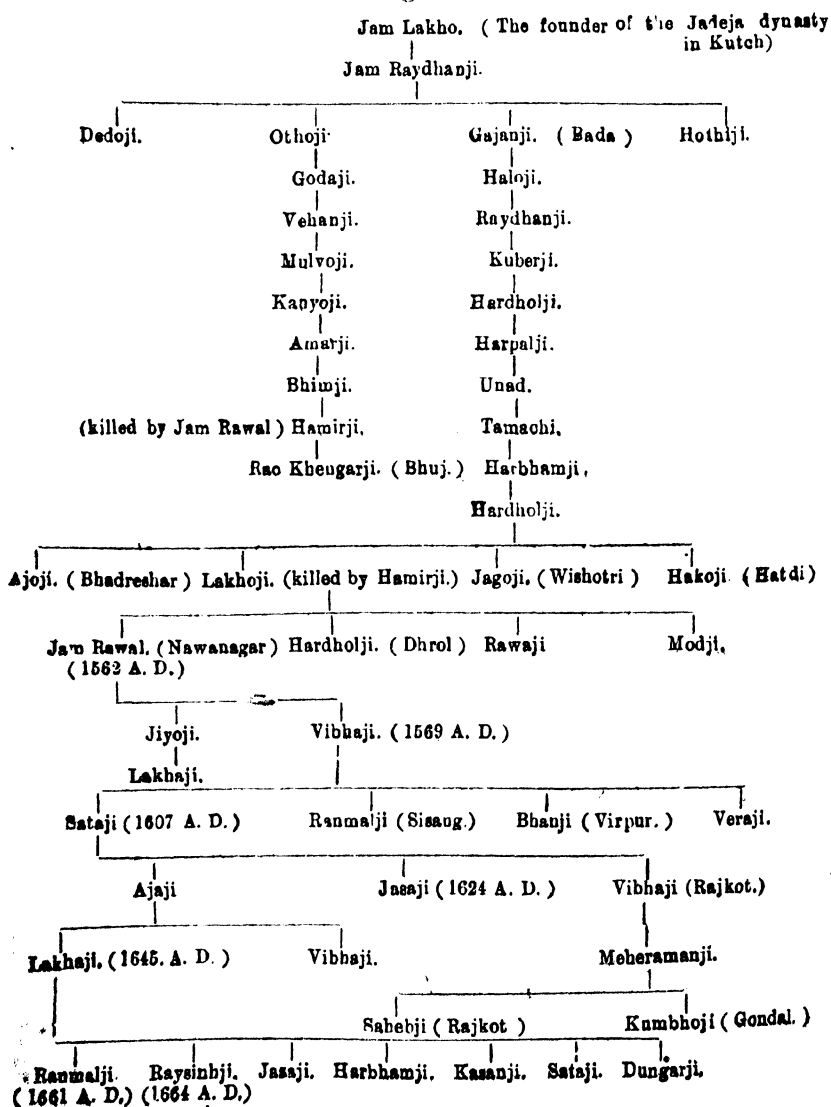
The well meaning and liberal Jam Saheb had not, however, strength enough to extricate himself from the intrigues of low courtiers and concubines. The State incurred heavy debts and it was found impracticable to carry out any work of public utility, which involved an outlay of a large capital. But the Jam Saheb, who always evinced a great solicitude for the well-being of his subjects, borrowed loans from the neighbouring States and undertook the construction of a Railway line between Rajkot and Nawanagar. Jam Shri Vibhaji did not live long enough to see the completion of his cherished project. He died on the 28th April 1895, leaving behind him the heir-apparent, Jaswantsinhji, Lakhubha, the son of Kalubha, and Ranjitsinhji to contest for the throne. The Supreme Government had, however, long before recognised the claims of Jaswantsinhji and on the 10th May 1895 he was installed on the *gadi* of Jamnagar by Colonel Hancock.

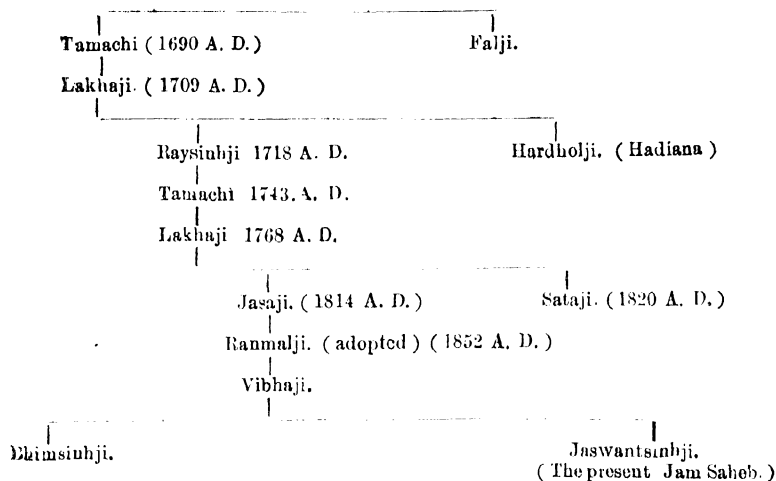
Prince Ranjitsinhji, who has joined the University of Cambridge and who has distinguished himself as a strong athlete and an energetic sportsman, is pushing on his claims in England, while Lakhubha has also gone there to represent his case to the Secretary of State for India. At present, however, Jaswantsinhji is recognised as the Jam of Nawanagar and during his minority, the administration is carried on by a British officer of great tact and experience. The young Jam, Jasaji *alias* Jaswantsinhji, is sent to Rajkot to receive his education at the Rajkumar College.

The Jam of Nawanagar holds a rank among the first class chiefs of Kathiawad and as such enjoys full criminal and civil powers in his own territory. The Jam stands at the head of all the Jadeja Chiefs of Halar. 'Jam' is considered to be the highest epithet that can be applied to the name of a sovereign. It is customary with the Jam not to rise up to receive a Chief of any rank whatsoever, who happens to go to his court on

a formal visit. The late Jam Saheb enjoyed a salute of 15 guns, though the State is entitled to 11 guns only.

Genealogical tree.





Residence.—Nawanagar, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

RAMPUR.

Area.—941 sq. miles. Population.—541,914.

Revenue.—3,000,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north and west by the British district of Moradabad; and on the north-east and south-east by the district of Bareilly.

The rulers of Rampur are styled Nawabs. It is said that two brothers, Shah Alam and Hussain Khan left their country, Afghanistan, and migrating into India, settled in Rohilkhand. The family acquired great celebrity in the time of Daud Khan, the son of Shah Alam. This Daud Khan played a prominent part in the struggle with the Marathas in the beginning of the 18th century, and he was granted in *jagir* Rampur and its neighbouring territories in the vicinity of Budaon. Daud Khan was thus the founder of the state of Rampur. He was, after his demise, succeeded by his adopted son, Ali Mahmud Khan. He assisted the Mughal Emperor in destroying the influence of the Saiyed brothers and the Emperor conferred upon him a large portion of Rohilkhand with the title of Nawab. He afterwards incurred the displeasure of the Mughal Viceroy of Oudh, who compelled him to relinquish all his claims to the estate and to send his sons to the Imperial court under the protection of the Emperor. After a few years, when the Viceroy of Oudh was engaged in driving away from the land, the invader, Ahmad Durani, Ali Mahmud Khan taking advantage of his absence, marched into Rohilkhand and reconquered his lost domains. Before his death, he made certain arrangements in favour of his six sons, whereby he sought the liberation of two of his sons, who were staying at Delhi, and during the nonage of his other sons, he entrusted the management of affairs to his brother, Hafiz Rahmut Khan, and his cousin Dudi Khan. They were also appointed guardians of his minor sons. The two elder sons were subsequently set free by the Emperor, and the eldest of them, Faizulla Khan, was nominated *Jagirdar* of Rampur Katra, which yielded an yearly income of 600,000 rupees.

The Marathas, after obtaining complete mastery over the effete Emperor at Delhi, invaded Rohilkhand. Jijibu Daulah, the Rohila chief, had fallen in the defence of Delhi in the year 1770. The Maratha forces now marched against his son Jabata Khan. He first

defended himself with conspicuous bravery, but eventually fled and sought shelter with the Nawab of Oudh. The Marathas overran and sacked the whole of the province and the Rohilas, man and woman, young and old, fell into the hands of the victors. In 1773, the chief of Rohilkhand implored the assistance of the Nawab of Oudh. The Nawab lost some time in determining upon a decisive step, when the news of the retreat of the Marathas from Rohilkhand reached his ears. An alliance was finally formed between the Rohila chief and the Nawab of Oudh at the instance of the British Government, whereby it was arranged that the Rohilas should pay to the Nawab the sum of ten *lakhs* of rupees, immediately after his expelling the Marathas from the province of Rohilkhand and a further sum of three *lakhs* was to be paid within the next three years. Shortly after the conclusion of this treaty, the Marathas once more marched upon Rohilkhand. Sujah-ud-Daulah, the reigning Nawab of Oudh, could not protect the Rohilas against the rapacity of this free-booting race, and their chief, Hafiz Rahmut, was compelled to appease them by the payment of a large booty. The Marathas once again wended their way towards Rohilkhand and pitched their camp on the banks of the Ganges. They peremptorily demanded a passage to Oudh through their province and their leader, Jabata Khan, at once ran up to them for protection. The Rohilas now declined to pay the Nawab the amount stipulated, on the ground that the help promised in return was not offered by him, whereupon the Nawab, with the assistance of his partisans, the English, invaded the territory of Rohilkhand. A fierce battle was fought between the contending armies on the field of Katra, in which the Rohilas sustained a signal defeat. Sardar Hafiz Rahmut, with his two sons and 2,000 followers, fell on the field and his other son was taken prisoner. The Nawab's troops plundered the province, burnt several villages and destroyed thousands of the helpless ryots. The whole province was rendered desolate, when at last the Rohila chief, Faizulla Khan, surrendered himself to the Nawab. A peace was finally concluded, by which the Rohila chief was allowed to retain possession of certain territories, yielding an annual reve nue of 1,475,000 rupees, on condition of his acknowledging the suzerainty of the Nawab of Oudh (1774). Faizulla Khan left behind him two sons, Mahmud Ali Khan and Gulam Mahmud Khan, of whom the younger, Gulam Mahmud, assassinated his elder brother and forcibly took possession of the estate. Vazier Ali, the Nawab of Oudh, espoused the cause of Ahmud Ali, the son of Mahmud Ali, and sought the assistance of the English.

The English army defeated Gulam Mahmud at the battle of Khareli and restored the principality of Rampur, yielding an annual income of 1,000,000 rupees to the young Nawab, Ahmud Ali Khan. The remaining portion of the estate was annexed to Rohilkhand. In 1801 the Nawab of Oudh surrendered to the English the province of Rohilkhand and relinquished all his sovereign rights over the estate of Rampur. The English Government, however, confirmed the Nawab in the possession of his territories.

Nawab Ahmud Ali Khan died in 1839, and was succeeded by Mahmud Saiyed Khan, the eldest son of Gulam Mahmud Khan. Nothing worth recording occurred in his reign. He was, after his death, succeeded by his son, Mahmud Yusuf Ali Khan. He lent material help to the English during the troublous times of the Indian Mutiny of 1857, in return whereof, the British Government conferred upon him territories, yielding an annual income of 1,28,527 rupees.

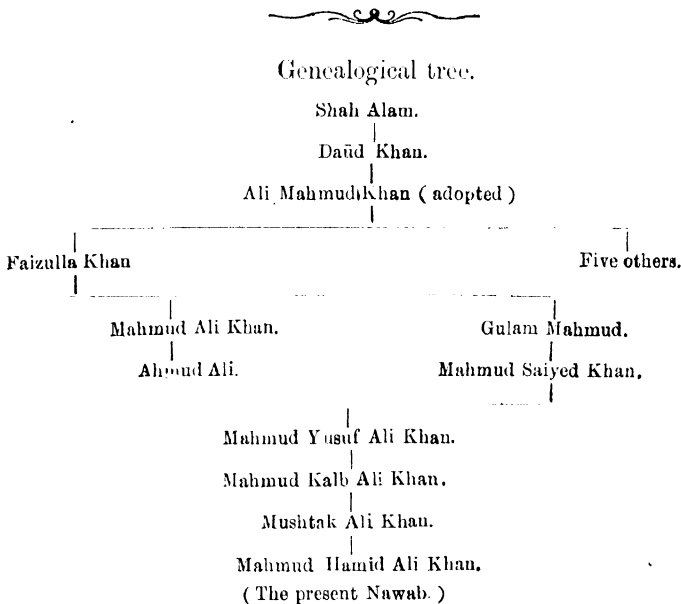
Nawab Mahmud Yusuf Ali Khan died in April 1865, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Mahmud Kalb Ali Khan. He was present at the Imperial Assemblage held at the ancient capital, Delhi, on January 1st 1877, under the presidency of Lord Lytton, the Viceroy of India, in honour of the assumption by Her Majesty Queen Victoria of the title of Empress of India. He was honoured with the distinguished titles of G. C. S. I. and Counsellor of the Empress of India. The salute of 13 guns to which he was heretofore entitled was raised to 15 for his life time only.

Nawab Mahmud Kalb Ali Khan breathed his last on 23rd March 1887, and was succeeded by his son, Mahmud Mushtak Ali Khan. He, however, died after a short illness on 25th February 1889 and was succeeded by his eldest son, Mahmud Hamid Ali Khan, the present Nawab of Rampur. During the minority of the present Nawab, the administration was carried on by a State-council with Sahibzada Safdar Ali Khan as its President, General Azim-ud-Din Khan, its Vice-President and Nawab Yarjang and Saiyed Ali Hussain, its members.

The Vice-President was murdered in April 1891, and Sahibzada Safdar Ali Khan resigned his post in the month of July of the same year. After this, Major Vincent of the Central India Horse was nominated as the president. A British Officer was appointed to look after the education of the minor Nawab. Now, the Nawab having passed the age of minority

has taken the helm of the State barge into his own hands with the sanction of the Supreme Government. He is a very able ruler and under his rule the ryots are happy and contented.

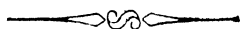
The Nawab of Rampur has been granted the right of adoption and is entitled to a salute of 15 guns.



Residence.—Rampur, North-West Provinces ; Northern India.

CHAPTER V.

STATES ENTITLED TO A SALUTE OF 13 GUNS.



BENARES.

Area.—983 sq. miles. Population.—448,274.

Revenue.—9,51,711 rupees.

The founder of the Kingdom of Benares was one Mūnsa Ram, a Gautam Brahmin *Jagirdar*, who at first was a mere manager at the city of Utaria. He is said to have acquired during his management, extending over a period of about nineteen years, a territory with an annual income of 24,50,000 rupees through the favour of his master, the Governor of Benares. He died in 1740 and his immense fortune was inherited by his son, Balwant Sinh. He raised a strong wall round the city and changed its name to Gangpur. He obtained from the Emperor of Delhi the districts of Jaunpur, Benares and Chunar, and the title of 'Raja Bahadur,' by making a *nazar* of 21,770 rupees and gradually extending his authority, established his supremacy over the large district of Gazipur. Thus his income rose from 2,450,000 rupees to 35,00,000 rupees.

When Mir Kasim, the Nawab of Bengal, took the field against the English and was defeated, he proceeded to the Court of the Nawab of Oudh to procure his assistance. In 1763 they formed a coalition with the Emperor of Delhi, Shah Alam, and Balwant Sinh, the King of Benares,

against the English to drive them away from Bengal. Their defeat at Buxar led to the desertion of Shah Alam and Balwant Sinh, who joined the English army. Afterwards Sujah-ud-Daulah surrendered himself to the English. One of the terms on which Lord Clive came to a settlement with him was to live amicably with Balwant Sinh of Benares and not to molest him. The Raja died in 1770; and was succeeded by Chait Sinh. In 1775 a new arrangement was arrived at, by virtue of which the district of Benares, the gift to the English Government from Nawab Asof Daulah Khan of Oudh, was put under the control of Chait Sinh with a fresh *sanad*. He was to pay a tribute of twenty two *lakhs* of rupees and to refrain from coining money in his own name. In 1778 he was required by the Governor General to supply an additional sum of 5 *lakhs* of rupees for the maintenance of three battalions of sepoy. Chait Sinh met the demand for the first year, though with the utmost difficulty. But as it was resolved to levy the sum as a permanent annual charge, he declined to pay. This refusal was treated as a high offence, and it was resolved by the Governor General in Council, in case of his resistance, to inflict severe punishment on him; and Warren Hastings personally proceeded to Benares to carry out the resolution of the Council. The cause of such an extraordinary behaviour on the part of the Governor General was his personal resentment against the prince, who had sided with the factious opponents of Hastings at the time of the unhappy dissensions and disputes in the supreme Council at Calcutta. The Raja was further called upon to furnish the cavalry, engaged in his service. After some hesitation and protestation he submitted. Now more money was again asked for; to this he gave a firm denial, which was made the ground for imposing a heavy fine. But that also the Raja would not pay. Hastings then went over to the palace, where the Raja threw himself on his generosity and requested him to pardon his faults and errors. On the next day, Chait Sinh was put under arrest and imprisoned in his own palace on 16th August 1781, by a handful of Hastings' followers.

As soon as the intelligence of his arrest spread in the city, the people, pilgrims, Sannyashis and Brahmins filled the streets round the palace, in which their prince was imprisoned. The tumultuous multitude butchered down the guards. The English soldiers held their own with desperate courage for some time, but could not hold out very long against overwhelming numbers, and fell with swords in hand. The captive prince during the confusion escaped from the palace by a window, crossed the

Ganges and went over to Ramnagar. The insurgents blockaded the residence of Hastings, and only on the arrival of timely aid from the English troops, he left the city in safety and proceeded directly to the fortress of Chunar. The population had grown so very furious at the time that Hastings could hardly have extricated himself from the perilous situation had not assistance come up in time. Raja Chait Sinh collected a large army to offer resistance, but his troops were not disciplined and the British forces poured in from all quarters to the rescue of their Governor-General. He was therefore dispirited and fled to Vijaygarh, fifty miles from Benares; being pursued by his adversaries, the weak prince fled to Gwalior to take refuge with Sindhia, where he died in 1810.

Now Hastings proceeded to depose Chait Sinh and he appointed Mahip Narayan, the grand son of the late Raja Balwant Sinh of Benares, on the throne. The new Raja agreed to pay a tribute of 40 *lakhs* of rupees and to dispense justice to his subjects according to British laws. The unjustifiable conduct of the Governor-General towards the unfortunate Chait Sinh was condemned by the Court of Directors in strong terms and his orders were reversed (1782).

In the year 1795, Mahip Narayan died, and his son, Raja Udit Narayan, succeeded him. Nothing of importance happened during his time; he died in 1835. His adopted son, Iswari Prasad Narayan, ascended the throne. He was present at Calcutta at the time of the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and was invited to the Darbar, held in honour of the Native Princes on the occasion. His Royal Highness was highly gratified by the reception accorded to him at the time of his arrival at Benares, where he saw its ancient fortress.

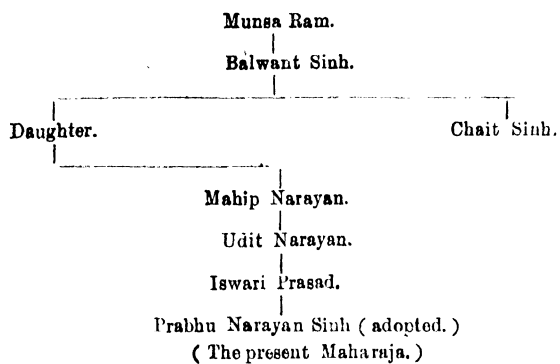
Raja Iswari Prasad was invested with the insignia of the order of G. C. S. I. at the Imperial Assemblage at the ancient capital of the Mughal Empire. He died in 1889, being succeeded by his nephew and adopted son, Prabhu Narayan Sinh. In the same year the title of "Maharaja Bahadur" was conferred upon him.

Maharaja Prabhu Narayan Sinh is entitled to a salute of 13 guns.



THE HIND RAJASTHAN.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Ramnagar, North-west Provinces; Northern India.



JAORA.

Area.—581 sq. miles, Population 117,650.

Revenue.—9,60,000 rupees.

The State of Jaora is bounded on the north by the British *Zilla* of Mandisar and a portion of the territory belonging to Holkar; on the east, by the River Kali Sindh; on the south, by the Ratlam State and on the west, by the Rajputana Agency.

The State is ruled over by Mahomedan Nawabs, who are Rohila Pathans of the Afghan tribe. It was founded by Gafur Khan, the brother-in-law of the notorious Pindhari leader, Amir Khan, in the present century. Gafur Khan was born in Rohilkhand. He joined Amir Khan when the latter took service with Holkar in 1798, and attained great distinction by his personal bravery and the high order of his mental qualities. In 1808 when Jaswant Rao Holkar became imbecile, he was appointed a member of the Council of Regency by Amir Khan; the Holkar's wife, Tulsibai, being but the nominal head of the Council. Grant Duff, the Historian, gives an account of the affairs of the State in the following terms:*

“ There was no regular collection of revenue; the government had not the power of reducing its army; and the finances of the State, even under the most skilful management, were inadequate to the support of the establishments.....The government, if such it may be designated, was alternately swayed by two factions, the Maratha and the Pathan, which were constantly intriguing against each other, and nothing could exceed the state of anarchy which prevailed throughout the country. At the court, bribery, executions, and murders, in the province violence, rapine, and bloodshed.” The party of the Pathans was led by Gafur Khan, who opposed every intrigue that was hatched by Tulsibai. He repaired to his *Jaigr* of Jaora, that was conferred on him, for the purpose of extorting money from the people and plundering Holkar's territory. His conduct exasperated the Maratha leaders, who sent an army against him. With the help of his brother-in-law, for fifteen days he could hold the enemy in play, and he repulsed them at last. His success strengthened the Pathan faction. Amir Khan proceeded to Rajputana and Gafur Khan became the protector of the infant prince. Tulsibai, however, persisted in her machinations against him; he, therefore, marched at the head of a large army

* Vide Grant Duff's History of the Marathas Vol. II. fourth edition p. p. 466-67.

upon Gungrao, whence she was driven away. She again rallied her troops and confronted him, near Mahidpur. The battle ended in the defeat and capture of Tulsibai, who was then beheaded. Only a few days after, at the very place the combined armies of Holkar and Gafur Khan met the British troops and were totally routed. A treaty was concluded on the 6th January 1818, consisting of twelve articles, by virtue of which the British Government recognized Gafur Khan as the Nawab of Sujit, Malhargarh, Taul, Mandaol, Jaora and Barode, and the tribute of Pipaluda was guaranteed to him; he, on the other hand, bound himself to serve the Government with but 600 armed followers, and to add to their number as his income rose up higher. Subsequently, Amir Khan claimed the country acquired by Gafur Khan, representing him to be merely his agent. But the Supreme Government overruled his contention, both on the ground that Gafur Khan had acquired it as a member of the Council, and that he had long since lost the post obtained by the influence of Amir Khan. The country has ever since belonged to his descendants.

Gafur Khan survived the treaty of Mandisar for seven years, having died in 1825. He was succeeded by his infant son, Ghous Mahmud, a child who had told but two years. Under the orders of the Government, the administration was conducted jointly by the eldest widow of the deceased Nawab and her son-in-law, Jahangir Khan. Though Jaora was an independent State, it was nominally treated as tributary to Holkar, and its infant Nawab was made to pay a *nazzar* of two *laks* of Rupees to Malhar Rao Holkar.

The guardianship of the Begam was characterized by so much mismanagement that the Agent to the Governor General removed her from the post and appointed an officer to carry on the administration.

The terms of the Mandisar treaty were again altered in 1825. It was then arranged that the Nawab should retain 500 horse, 500 foot and two guns. In 1842 the arrangement was discontinued, and the Jaora troops were amalgamated with Holkar's and Dewas' contingents, for which a fixed sum was to be paid by the Nawab. In 1857 the loyalty of Ghous Mahmud to the British Government was rewarded by a further reduction in the fixed sum. He died on the 29th April 1865, and was succeeded by Prince Mahmud Ishmail Khan, then only 11 years old. Owing to his minority the administration was conducted by his minister under the supervision of the Political Agent. His right of succession was

disputed by the Nawab of Tonk, on behalf of the widow of the deceased Nawab as well as for himself ; but his claims were disallowed by the British Government. In 1784 Nawab Mahmud Ishmail Khan assumed the administration of his State. In 1876 he proceeded to Indore to pay a visit to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and in 1877, he attended the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi. Nawab Mahmud Ishmail Khan was an Honorary Major of the British Army in 1881.

The Nawab wished himself to be the sole administrator of the State. He did therefore dispense with the services of Hazrat Nurkhan in 1881. The British authorities advised a council. A council of four accordingly was appointed to assist him in conducting the public affairs. The councillors attempted to curtail his expenses. Their attempts were objected to by the Nawab ; they therefore withdrew their services as councillors, step by step. The result was that the State was plunged into a debt of more than sixteen *lakhs* of rupees in 1887. A new minister was appointed. The British Government lent a loan of three *lakhs* at 5 *per cent.* to the State. It was estimated in 1890 that the loan would be repaid by the end of 1892. It was also hoped that the State would pay off the debt by the end of 1895.

By the agreement of 1881, the State had to abolish all transit duties on salt passing through the State, and had to receive as compensation, for the loss caused thereby, from the British Government rupees 2,500 annually, through the Political Agent, Western Malwa.

On the Jubilee occasion in February 1887, all the opium transit duties were abolished throughout the State. The State is deemed the best in Malwa for poppy cultivation. It annually produces about 1800 *maunds* of opium. Nawab Mahmud Ishmail Khan after his death, which took place on 5th March 1895, was succeeded by his eldest son, Fakhrud-Daulah Nawab Iftikhar Ali Khan Bhadur Sowlat Jung, the present Nawab.

During his minority, the State is being administered by his maternal uncle, Khan Bahadur Yar Mahmud Khan, who belongs to the Berar Commission, and his services were lent by the British Government to the late Nawab in 1887, for appointment as minister of the State.

The young Nawab is aged only 13 years, and studies at the Daly College, Indore.

The Nawab has been granted the right of adoption and is entitled to a salute of 13 guns.

Genealogical tree.

Gafur Khan.

|

Ghous Mahmud.

|

Mahmud Ishmail Khan.

|

Fakhrud-Daulah Nawab Iftikhar Ali Khan Bahadur Sowlat Jung.

(The present Nawab.)

Residence.—Jaora, Western Malwa Agency ; Central India.



KUCH BEHAR.

Area.—1,307 sq. miles. Population.—578,868.

Revenue.—13,37,472 rupees.

This State is bounded on the east by the district of Govaipur; on the north and west, by the district of Darjiling; and on the south and south-west, by the district of Rangpur.

There are several traditions extant regarding the founder of the dynasty to which the reigning Chief of Kuch Behar belongs. Some mention one Hajo, of the Koch tribe, as the progenitor of the family, while according to others the pedigree might be traced back to a Meeh, named Hariya. Whoever might have been the founder of the family, all these legends agree in bringing into prominence two women, Hira and Jira, who are supposed by some to have been sisters and by others to have been wives of the same husband. Of the two, Jira does not seem to have played any important part, but Hira, by her supernatural beauty and grace, is said to have fascinated the god, S'iva, by whom she bore a son, named Visu or Viswa Sinh, who became the first ruler of Kuch Behar. To commemorate their divine descent, the rulers of Kuch Behar to this day add to their names the appellation of Narayan (lord). The ordinary populace too take delight in being called Rajbansi (Royal-born). This State is officially styled Nij (own) Behar in order to distinguish it from Behar proper.

Visu Sinh was, after his death, succeeded by his son, Nar Narayan, who reigned at Kuch Behar about the year 1550. He is said to have been the greatest monarch that ruled over the province. By the prowess of his arms he conquered the adjacent district of Kamrup, and built several temples in Assam, of which some are still to be seen in ruins, bearing inscriptions mentioning his name. He levied tribute from his powerful neighbour, Deb Raja of Bhutan, and extended his sway in the south as far as those regions which are, at present, comprised within the districts of Rangpur and Purniah. The *Narayani* coins, which are now occasionally struck more for show than for general use, are said to have been first introduced in the reign of Nar Narayan.

With the death of Nar Narayan, the independence of Kuch Behar practically came to an end. During his life-time, he had distributed among his brothers the territories of Assam, where their descendants are still to

be found occupying the position of wealthy and influential *Zamindars*. The *gadi* of Kuch Behar was, after his death, occupied by his son Lakshmi Narayan. It was during his reign that the Mughal arms were, for the first time, directed towards his principality. He was carried away, a prisoner to Delhi, whence he was allowed to return to his territories, on his owning allegiance to the Mughal sovereignty. He, from that day, occupied the subordinate position of a mere feudatory Chief paying tribute to the Paramount Power that had established its sovereignty all over Bengal. On the north the Bhutanese commenced a systematic operation of bloodshed and rapine, and even asserted their right to interfere with the internal government of the State and settle the question of succession to the throne. The internal administration too was not free from this sort of fearful chaos. The right of management was claimed by three rival families, descended from the Royal Stock. They were: the Raikat of Baikanthpur, the Nazir Deo and the Diwan Deo. Each claimed a right to administer the estate and even sought the assistance of foreign enemies to support his pretensions.

The Bhutanese, as we stated before, always maintained a close connection with Kuch Behar, and occasionally interfered with its internal affairs. Dhurjendra Narayan, who was reigning at Kuch Behar about the year 1772, had a dispute with his brother, Ram Narayan, regarding the right of succession to the *gadi*. Ram Narayan, who enjoyed the position of the prime minister of the State, was dismissed and publicly disgraced. He appealed to the Bhutanese for help which was readily granted and he was accordingly reinstated as the Diwan of Kuch Behar. Ram Narayan was, however, subsequently put to death by the orders of his vindictive brother, who thereby incurred the wrath of the enraged Bhutanese. Dhurjendra Narayan was made a prisoner and carried to the adjoining hills. His brother, Rajendra Narayan, was appointed his successor to the throne of Kuch Behar. On Rajendra Narayan's death a dispute arose between Dharendra Narayan, the son of Dhurjendra Narayan, and Brajendra Narayan, the son of one of his elder brothers. The cause of the former was espoused by the Nazir Deo, while the latter was supported by the powerful Bhutanese. The Nazir Deo, being worsted and driven out of the territory, applied for help to the East India Company. This was in 1772 and from that date the relations between Kuch Behar and the British Government have continued to be amicable to the present day. In 1773 the Nazir Deo, in the name of Dharendra Narayan, entered into an

offensive and defensive alliance with the East India Company. By the terms of this treaty concluded between the parties, the Raja acknowledged subjection to the British Government and agreed to the annexation of Kuch Behar to the province of Bengal. He further agreed to cede to the British Government one-half of the annual income of his State; the other moiety he was allowed to retain on condition of his remaining firm in his allegiance to the British Throne. The Imperial Government, on the other hand, agreed to supply troops to the Raja in times of exigency for the defence of his territories, at his expense. Captain Jones, at the head of a small contingent, then proceeded to Kuch Behar, and dispersing the Bhutanese, pursued them as far as the hills. The Bhutanese, thus hard pressed, concluded, in 1774, a treaty with the British power, and, in accordance with one of its articles, the captive Raja, Dhurjendra Narayan, was set at liberty. He, however, did not assume the government of his State until the death of his son, Dharendra Narayan, which occurred in 1780. Raja Dhurjendra Narayan died in 1783 and was succeeded by his second son, Harendra Narayan, who was quite an infant at the time of his accession to the *gadi*. Constant disturbances broke out in the State, which seriously imperilled the safety of the lives and property of the innocent ryots. In 1788 the Supreme Government appointed two special commissioners to enquire into the causes of these disturbances, and they having reported against the then existing administration, a British Officer was appointed to manage the State affairs on behalf of the minor Raja. In 1800 Harendra Narayan attained the age of majority and the sole management was entrusted to his care. He was, however, found inefficient to satisfactorily manage his affairs, and commissioners were repeatedly appointed, in 1802, 1805, 1813 and 1817, to generally supervise the administration. This power of general control was eventually transferred from these specially appointed commissioners to the Governor-General's Agent for the North-East Frontiers. Harendra Narayan died at Benares in 1839. Shivendra Narayan, a natural son of the deceased Raja, was then installed on the *gadi*. He adopted, as his son, one of his brother's sons, named Narendra Narayan, who succeeded him to the *gadi* in 1847. At the time of his accession, Narendra Narayan was only four years old and the management was therefore carried on by Brajendra Narayan Kumar, a brother of the late Raja. Brajendra Narayan, however, died in 1857, and the widows of Shivendra Narayan undertook the administration of

the State. In 1862 Raja Narendra Narayan received a *sanad* conferring upon him the right of adoption.

In August 1863, he died at the age of 20, in the very prime of his life, and his son, Nripendra Narayan, succeeded him on the throne. The new chief received the personal distinction of 'Maharaja Bahadur' in 1880, and three years after, he was invested with full regal powers, on his attaining the age of majority.

The question whether Kuch Behar should be honoured with the name of a "State," or be merely styled an "Estate" or a "Raj," which had been under discussion for the last ten years, was then decided in favour of Kuch Behar. In the *Sanad* of adoption granted by Lord Canning, the then Governor-General of India, to the Raja of Kuch Behar, his principality had been designated as a State, and the same honour was now perpetuated by the Government Resolution.

During the nonage of the ruling Prince, the government of the State was conducted by the Commissioner of Kuch Behar and Raj Shahi Division, and an officer of the grade of a Deputy Commissioner was placed in immediate charge of its affairs. The ryots reaped immense advantages under the fostering care of the British administration. The State prospered with amazing rapidity; the revenues advanced by leaps and bounds and thorough reform was introduced in the modes of settlement and the assessment of lands, Improvement was made in the coinage of the district and the British rupee was made a legal tender. The Police and the Judicial Departments were brought up to a high state of efficiency and the laws were systematized in such a way as not to interfere with any local or special customs. The seeds of education were sown broadcast among the populace by the opening of a large number of schools, and Postal, as well as Telegraph, offices were established at several places in the State. Many works of public utility were undertaken; roads were improved and bridges constructed at a vast expense. In spite of all this outlay, however, large savings were handed over to the Maharaja, when he was formally installed on the *gadi*. The Maharaja at present carries on the government with the aid of a Council of Administration. He is himself the President, while the Superintendent of the State works on the Council as the Vice-President. The Diwan, representing the Revenue branch, and the Chief Judge, form the other members of the Council. All these

offices are at present filled by British servants, whose services have been lent to the State.

In 1878, the Maharaja was married to the daughter of Babu Keshav Chandra Sen, the celebrated leader of Religious Reform in Bengal. The marriage has been blessed with several offsprings, and the heir-apparent was born in 1885. The Maharaja with his Rani proceeded, after their marriage, on an extended tour through the Continent and the United Kingdom.

In 1884, the title of Maharaja Bahadur, conferred four years before upon Nripendra Narayan, was recognised by the Supreme Government as a hereditary distinction, to be enjoyed by all his lawful heirs and successors on the throne. He was also entitled to be addressed as "His Highness" in all official correspondence and his old title of "Bhup Bahadur" was also acknowledged by the Paramount Power.

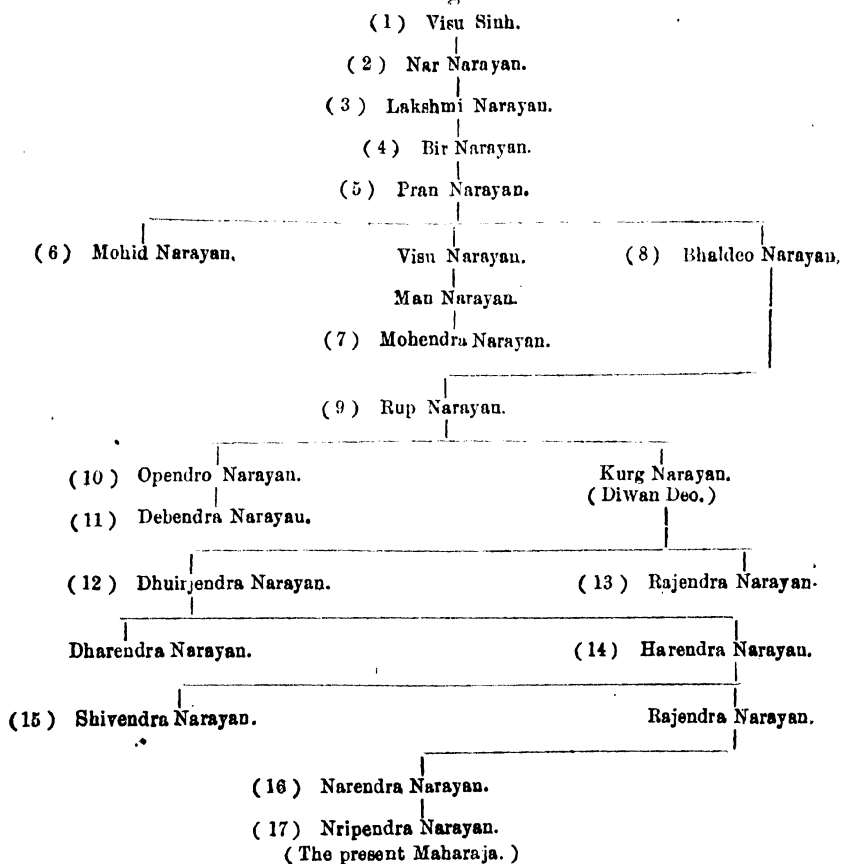
In the year 1887, the Maharaja, with his Rani and their children, again visited England on the occasion of the Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen Empress. They were very hospitably treated by the members of the Royal family, and the Maharaja was decorated with the title of a Knight Grand Commander of the Order of the Indian Empire. The Maharani was honoured with the title of the Crown of India. The Chief was also appointed an Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of the 6th Regiment of the Bengal Cavalry, and an Aid-de-camp to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales.

During recent years, owing to improvements in the modes of assessing the revenues of the land, the fiscal condition of the State has considerably improved and the annual income is fast rising. A grand palace has been constructed and all the important public offices have been housed or located in substantial buildings. In 1887, to commemorate the year of Her Majesty's Jubilee, the Victoria College was opened in Kuch Behar.

The Maharaja of Kuch Behar has been granted the right of adoption and enjoys a salute of 13 guns.



Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Kuch Behar, Bengal; Northern India.

RATLAM.

Area.—729 sq. miles. Population.—89,160.

Revenuc.—13,00,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the Jaora State ; on the east, by the dominions of Holkar and Sindhia ; on the south, by the Dhar State ; and on the west, by the States of Banswara and Pratapgarh in Rajputana.

The rulers of Ratlam are Rathod Rajputs, descended from the same stock as the Maharaja of Jodhpur. Ratan Sinh, the founder of the principality, was the grand-son of Dalpat Sinh, the seventh son of Maharaja Udaya Sinh. When Sur Sinh succeeded his father, Udaya Sinh, in 1595 on the Marwad throne, he conferred a munificent *Jagir* on his younger brother, Dalpat Sinh. It comprised the territories of Jhalor, Balhira, Kherda and Pisagaon (in Ajmere). After Dalpat Sinh's death, his son, Mahesh Das, sat upon the Jhalor *gadi* in the year 1609. The Emperor, Shah Jahan, was so much pleased with the skill, circumspection and gallantry displayed by him in times of war that he bestowed upon him some additional fiefs. Among the several exploits recorded of him the most heroic was the battering of the fortress of Daulatabad. It fell into his hands after a severe struggle, in which he lost two of his brothers, and was himself severely wounded. In recognition of this signal service, Shah Jahan conferred on him 84 villages in the Phulia *Paragna* and 385 villages in that of Jehazpur, and also ennobled him with the dignified title of '*Shehazari*.' Mahesh Das died in the year 1645.

While the services rendered by Mahesh Das were still fresh in the memory of the Emperor, his son, Ratan Sinh, attended the Imperial Court to do homage to the Emperor. He was then a youth of 23 years of age, with the same indomitable spirit and love of enterprise, which distinguished his illustrious father. He won the approbation of all around him by boldly rushing upon an infuriated elephant, that had chanced to get loose and was coming upon him, and by wounding the mad animal in the streets of Delhi. The Emperor, surprised and delighted beyond all measure, presented him with a rich *jagir*, yielding an annual income of 53,000 Rupees together with 12 large *Paragnas*. The javelin with which Ratan Sinh wounded the mad elephant is still preserved as a trophy in the armoury at Ratlam, and from 1646, the year in which the brave deed is recorded to have been achieved, it has been looked upon with an eye of reverence by the descend-

ants of Ratan Sinh. In addition to the *jagir* mentioned above, the Emperor conferred upon him other marks of royalty, such as *Shehazari*, Chour, Morchhal, Suraj-Mukhi &c.

Ratan Sinh, immediately after his arrival in Malwa, founded a city, which he called after him Ratlam. He removed his seat of government to this newly established city. Hardly had he settled himself at Ratlam, when a large Imperial force, under the command of Maharaja Jaswant Sinh of Marwad, was despatched to oppose the onward progress of the combined armies of Prince Murad and Aurangzeb, who were proceeding to Delhi under the pretext of seeing their royal parent, lying ill at Delhi. Ratan Sinh was ordered by the Emperor to co-operate with the Imperial forces. Jaswant Sinh was lying encamped at a small village, afterwards named Fattehabad, near Ujjain, which he had fortified against the inroads of the enemy. In the ensuing battle the Imperial troops sustained a signal defeat on account of the treacherous conduct of one of their generals, Kasam Khan. Jaswant Sinh, anticipating the desertion of that Moslem officer, withdrew to his own dominions, leaving the command of the army in the hands of his nephew, Ratan Sinh. This valiant prince did his utmost to stem the torrent of the conquests of the progressing enemy. With a few of his picked comrades, he led a forlorn hope against the fearful odds of the enemy, in whose ranks he wrought such a fearful havoc that they were for a time beaten back. Prince Murad, however, ran to their rescue with fresh reinforcements, and Ratan Sinh and his brave followers at last lay dead on the field. On the spot where the remains of this hero were consigned to the flames on a funeral pyre, made of wooden stumps of shivered spears, there is still to be seen a *chotra* (pavilion) erected in his memory. All his seven Ranis became *suttees*, who immolated themselves with the turban of their departed lord in their laps. This singularly heroic prince did not live long to enjoy his exalted position, but within six years after his accession to power sacrificed his life to his stern sense of duty, in the very flower of his youth at the age of 29 years.

Ratan Sinh seems to have distributed his estate among his sons. On what principle this division was effected has not yet been ascertained, but it can be asserted with confidence that that portion of the territory which included within its extent the principal seat of government, Ratlam, must have been the largest of all the sub-divisions. This principality was despoiled of vast tracts of land by the neighbouring chiefs, who took undue

advantage of the minority of Ratan Sinh's successors. Some such dispute continues to our own day between the chiefs of Ratlam and Jhabua in respect of Ramgurya. It also appears that Aurangzeb, the Emperor of Delhi, wreaked his vengeance on the Ratlam Chief, by confiscating a large portion of his dominions.

There is a difference of opinion among the chroniclers of Ratlam as to who succeeded Ratan Sinh to the throne, but it has been made out on a complete investigation of the State records that his eldest son, Ram Sinh, occupied the *gadi*. He reigned for 20 years and was killed in a battle in the Deccan. He was succeeded by Shiv Sinh, who died without issue. In spite of the resistance offered by the leading nobility, Kesho Das, the illegitimate son of Ram Sinh, appropriated to himself the vacant throne. He roused the anger of the aristocracy against him by this act of usurpation, as well as by his assuming the title of the 'Sun of 12,000 Rathods.' While negotiations were being carried on between himself and his chiefs, he incurred the displeasure of the Emperor by his ordering one of the Mahomedan chiefs to be executed. His enemies, availing themselves of the wrath of the Emperor, represented to him that Kesho Das was a man of low birth and thus obtained his dethronement. He was succeeded by Chhatra Sal, one of Ratan Sinh's sons. He had spent the best part of his life in the service of the Emperor in the Deccan. He had manfully served his royal master during the several engagements at Golconda and Bijapur, as well as at Raigarh and Jhinji. He had also accompanied Emperor Bahadur Shah in his expedition against Mirza Kam Baksha. He returned home with the Imperial army in 1709, and in the same year once more marched towards the Deccan. He fought there with conspicuous bravery on the field of Punnala. His son, Hathi Sinh, was killed during one of those encounters, which plunged him in grief and turned him into an ascetic, averse to all worldly pleasures and enjoyments. On his return home, he distributed his territories between his sons and a grand-son, and himself returned to Ujjain as a recluse. He passed the remainder of his life in holy devotion and meditation. During the latter part of his reign, Kesho Das, who had once usurped the Ratlam *gadi*, succeeded in setting up an independent principality at Sitamav. Of the sons of Chhatra Sal, Keshri Sinh obtained Ratlam and Pratap Sinh, Raote, while Dhamnod fell to the share of his grand-son, Bairi Sal. This partition awakened the jealousy of Pratap Sinh, and civil dissensions followed. Bairi Sal, distrusting his wicked uncle, Pratap Sinh, made over his

fief to Keshri Sinh and himself sought shelter at the Court of Jaipur. The unflinching but daring Pratap, actuated with the unnatural desire of misappropriating the share of his nephew, seized the person of Keshri Sinh and treacherously killed him in the year 1717. Pratap, however, could not enjoy such ill-gotten power for a long time.

Man Sinh, the eldest son of Keshri Sinh, was then residing at Delhi and the sad news of his father's demise was communicated to him by his younger brother, Jay Sinh. The latter had escaped from the wrath of Pratap Sinh and taken refuge at the Court of the chief of Narwar. Man Sinh set out from Delhi at the head of a strong detachment of Imperial troops and was joined near Mandisar by his brother, Jay Sinh, supported by the troops provided by the prince of Narwar. The combined troops marched upon Ratlam, but were met half way by Pratap Sinh, near the village of Sagode. A pitched battle was fought in which Pratap Sinh was killed and his army routed.

Man Sinh thus succeeded in occupying the vacant throne. He won the approbation and esteem of all his friends and relations by conferring large fiefs on them. The greatest *jagir* bestowed on any of his comrades was that of Sailana, which was granted to his younger brother, Jay Sinh. It was in his reign that the Marathas began gradually to emerge from their place of obscurity and the arms of Man Sinh were always attended with success in the several skirmishes fought between him and the roving bands of Maratha free-booters. No other event worthy of record occurred during his reign. Dying in 1744, Man Sinh was succeeded by his son, Prithvi Sinh. The Marathas, during his reign, overran vast tracts of land within his domains. Their frequent inroads were averted by the payments of large sums of money. After an unhappy reign of thirty years he expired in the year 1774.

Prithvi Sinh was succeeded by Padam Sinh. Convinced of his inability to stem the torrent of the Maratha inroads, he agreed to pay them every year a certain amount of tribute. He died in 1801.

Parbat Sinh ascended the throne after the death of Padam Sinh. The ravages caused by the Maratha incursions during his reign were most distressing. Jaswant Rao Holkar sacked the capital on two different occasions, the chief of Dhar rendered the whole province desolate, and Sindhia sent a large army, under the command of Bapu Sindhia, to levy the outstanding tribute from the Ratlam Chief. The whole province was

laid waste, the resources of the State were completely exhausted and Parbat Singh was unable to meet with the excessive demands of Sindhia. He had, therefore, no recourse left him but to take up arms against the formidable forces of Maharaja Sindhia. Twelve thousand Sirohi swords leapt from the scabbards of the enraged Rajputs to avenge the insult offered by Sindhia, and they boldly determined upon fighting the enemy to the last. This blood-shed was, however, averted by the timely intercession of Sir John Malcolm. On behalf of the British Government, he guaranteed the regular payment of the annual tribute, and made Sindhia undertake " never to send any troops into the country or to interfere in any way in its internal administration or succession." This agreement was signed in the year 1819.

Parbat Singh died in 1826, and Balwant Singh succeeded him at the age of 11 years. The administration was, during his minority, carried on by Colonel Borthwick, Political Agent of Mahidpur. During his regime several reforms were introduced and the ryots grew contented and happy. The government was entrusted to the sole charge of Balwant Singh on his attaining the age of majority. During his youth he gave himself up to diverse pleasures of life, and though he cared very little about the affairs of the State, his administration was on the whole beneficial. He was endowed with strong common sense, and the efficiency with which he conducted the government during the latter part of his reign preserved the province from any internal disturbance. Notwithstanding his extravagance, at the time of his death he left in the State treasury 40 *lakhs* of Rupees in hard cash and other jewellery. He rendered material service to the English during the Indian Mutiny of 1857, in recognition whereof, the Supreme Government presented a rich dress of honor to his successor. When Balwant Singh died, the throne of Ratlam devolved upon Bhairav Singh of Jharvas, as the adopted son of the late chief. He was fifth in descent from Man Singh, and in 1858, when he ascended the throne he was 18 years old. Brought up in obscurity, he was quite incapable of carrying on the government. He placed implicit confidence in Bakhatavar Singh Songara, a trusted officer of his father. Songara abused that confidence, and was a scourge to the people, placed under his care. He appointed as his deputy a Bania friend of his, who, in his turn, filled all places of trust in the State with his own friends and relations. These proteges of the minister constantly surrounded the

person of the King, and kept a strict watch over all his actions. They studiously kept back from him all information, and reduced him to the position of a prisoner in their hands. After six years of incessant spoliation, the treasury was drained to its bottom and the finances were left in embarrassed circumstances. The State was plunged in debts, from which it was extricated after full ten years. When the Prince was awakened to the real state of affairs, he regretted his past conduct and endeavoured his utmost to free himself from the shackles of his faithless minister. He was, however, taken seriously ill, of which illness he died on January 27th 1864, leaving behind him a bankrupt Raj, one *lakh* of impoverished ryots and an infant prince, Rānjit Singh, aged only 2 years. Bhairav Singh was succeeded by Rānjit Singh, as a minor. During his minority, the British Government conducted the administration through one of their own officers, Khan Bahadur Mir Shahamat Ali C. S. I., who was appointed Superintendent of Ratlam. Rānjit Singh was sent to receive his education at the Rajkumar College, at Indore.

Khan Bahadur Mir Shahamat Ali C. S. I. introduced several reforms in all the branches of the administration; new and improved roads were constructed, and he spent such large sums of money in works of public usefulness that it would be out of place in our narrative to recount them in all their details. It would be enough for our purpose to say that between the years 1865 and 1873, no less than 86 bridges and culverts and such other works of utility were constructed within the Ratlam territories. The most noteworthy among them are the Amrit Sagar bridge, the bathing *ghaut* at Trivenny and Rambag. Of the State-buildings, the most prominent are the College, the Palace, named Rānjit Vilas after the reigning prince, and Rambag Koti.

It is highly instructive to take into account the *morale* of the several reforms introduced by K. B. Shahamat Ali, at the instance of the Agent to H. E. the Governor General, and more especially with the aid of Major-General Sir Henry Daly K. C. B. In the College, which he established at Ratlam, equipped with all the requisites for imparting instruction in the four principal faculties, a long felt want to the people was satisfied. Primary education was encouraged by the opening of branch schools at the capital as well as in all pretty large villages. Several girls' schools, too, were opened during his regime. An undreamt of stimulus was thus given to education, which was yet very scarce in that part of the

country. Civil, criminal and revenue laws were promulgated for the guidance of the governors and the governed. While framing these enactments, the manners, customs and usages of the people were principally taken into consideration. Besides these, Mir Shahamat Ali Khan succeeded in introducing several reforms in the State.

Raja Ranjit Sinh, though a minor, attended the Imperial Assemblage, held at Delhi, on 1st January 1877, under the presidency of H. E. Lord Lytton, Viceroy and Governor-General of India, on the occasion of the assumption by Her Imperial Majesty Queen Victoria of the august title of "Kaiser-i-Hind" *i. e.* "Empress of India." He was presented with the Imperial banner and a gold medal in this Darbar.

Raja Ranjit Sinh was entrusted with the sole management of the State on attaining his majority in 1880. Mir Shahamat Ali, the Diwan, retired in 1881, and died in 1890, at the age of 77 years. The predecessors of the Raja had a salute of 11 guns, but it was increased to 13, in the case of H. H. Ranjit Sinh, who, for the keen interest he took in the advancement of education and the general progress of his country, was further rewarded by the British Government with the much coveted title of a Knight Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire. In the year 1888, Raja Ranjit Sinh established the Rajkumar Hospital on the occasion of the death of his first Rani, Jhaliji Saheb, and the institution has supplied a great want felt in the town. He encouraged industries of every kind, and maintained the Central College, and several schools for boys and girls, and granted concessions, to cotton ginning presses, by way of offering a stimulus to merchants and tradesmen, coming from the British districts and foreign Native States. He was a man of an extremely kind and generous disposition, and was anxious to follow the principles of the British rule in India. Whenever he visited Bombay and other important places in British India, he made it a point to visit the local courts, the Municipal Corporation and other public and private offices, for the purpose of becoming acquainted with the working of the various institutions, with a view to placing similar institutions in his own territory on a more efficient and satisfactory basis. His Highness Ranjit Sinh always appointed well known and learned gentlemen as his Diwans. The late Honourable Rao Bahadur Gopal Rao Harry Deshmukh, Mr. Shamji Krishna Varma, Barrister-at-law and Mr. Framji Bhikaji, retired Assistant Political Agent, were the predecessors of the present Diwan.

Khan Bahadur Cursetji Rustanji Thanawalla. At a grand Darbar held by His Highness, on the 4th July 1892, to invest Khan Bahadur Cursetji with the Diwanate of the State, His Highness in reply to the address of the Khan Bahadur, said:—"I am sure that the large experience which you have gained by your long and meritorious services of 15 years in the Baroda State as Chief Justice, as well as a member of Council, and general adviser in State matters will be of considerable use to this State. I shall always be happy to give you my support with regard to all the desirable reforms in matters relating to the administration, and I have no doubt that my Sardars and officials will heartily co-operate with you. I trust that your administration will give satisfaction to me, as well as to my subjects. I wish you every success." His Highness Ranjit Singh died, at Ratlam, on the 28th January 1893 of pneumonia, and the news of his death cast a gloom over the whole of Malwa, and the Political Agent in his administration Report said:—"It is with extreme regret that I have to mention the lamentable demise in January of His Highness Sir Ranjit Singh, K. C. I. E., the Raja of Ratlam at the early age of 31 years. He was a wise and able ruler, and his death is a great loss to Western Malwa. He was kind, considerate and popular with all classes of his subjects, and was much respected by the surrounding Rajput States, which looked on him as their titular Chief. He paid great personal attention to the affairs of his State, and was an enlightened Chief, and very liberal in his expenditure on charity." The Agent to the Governor-General also said:—"The death of the Raja of Ratlam, which took place in January last, is much to be regretted. His Highness Sir Ranjit Singh, K. C. I. E., was a good administrator and was much respected. He has been succeeded by his son, Sujjan Singh, who is now studying at the Indore Residency College, and will, I hope, be hereafter as good a ruler as his father. The financial condition of the Ratlam State is satisfactory, and the administration is being conducted, under the Political Agent's supervision, by Khan Bahadur Cursetji Rustanji, who was appointed by the late Raja." The Political Agent in his administration report said:—"It is intended to make as few changes as possible in the administration, which has worked so smoothly and successfully heretofore. Khan Bahadur Cursetji Rustanji retains the post of Diwan. He is a man of high reputation, having formerly filled important posts in the service of the Bombay Government and Baroda State, and he has hitherto done his work at Ratlam satisfactorily. The Government of India have directed that "the administration of the State should be

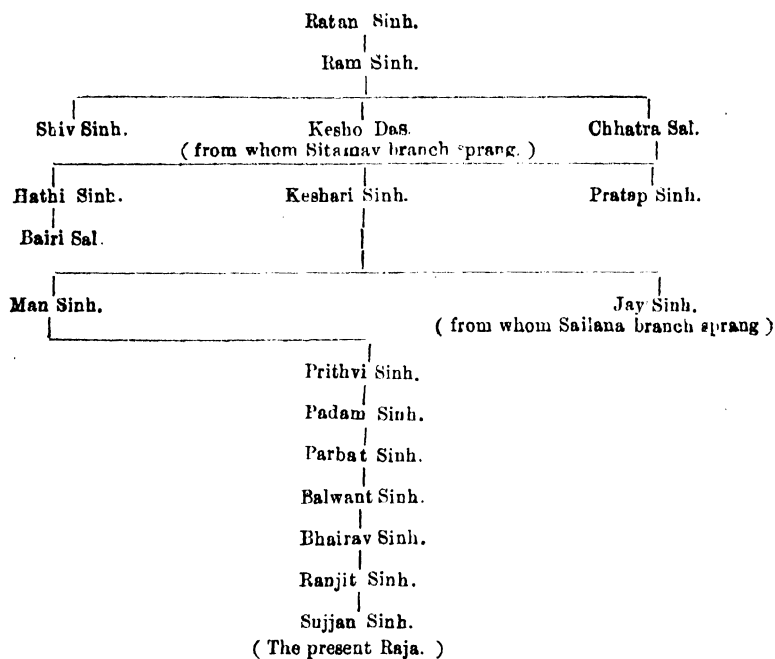
carried on as far as practicable upon the same lines as hitherto by the Diwan, Khan Bahadur Cursetji Rustamji, under the supervision of the Political Agent," observing that "these arrangements have been very generally approved of in the State itself." It has also been directed by the Agent to the Governor-General that there should be no permanent Panches for the disposal of Civil appeals, but that the parties should be at liberty to appoint, if they chose, their own Panches, or arbitrators to decide their case, or that the Diwan alone should decide the case if the parties do not appoint any arbitrators; and that in supercession of the old rules and regulations which were made some 30 years ago for the guidance of the Judicial department, the principles and spirit of the British Indian Laws should be followed "broadly, and with due adaptation to circumstances;" and this has been done now during the minority of the Raja, His Highness Sujjan Singh.

As regards the jurisdiction and powers of the Diwan, full and final civil powers have been given to him, and with regard to criminal cases, he is given powers to dispose of finally all cases, except those involving a sentence of death, or of transportation for life. In the latter cases the files are to be submitted to the Political Agent, who after recording his opinion on them, forwards them to the Governor General's Agent for confirmation or otherwise, it being made clear that no appeal lies from the Diwan's judgments, except when he passes a sentence of death or of transportation for life.

The Raja of Ratlam has been granted the right of adoption and is entitled to a salute of 13 guns.



Genealogical tree.



idence.—Ratlam, Western Malwa Agency ; Central India.

TIPPERAH.

Area.—4,086 sq. miles. Population.—1,37,442.

Revenue.—9,12,465 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north, by the Assam District of Sylhet; on the west, by the Bengal Districts of Tipperah and Noakhali; on the south, by Noakhali and Chittagong; and on the east, by the Lushai country and the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

Tipperah appears to be but a corruption of Tripur, a name probably given to the country in honor of the sacred shrine dedicated either to Tripurardana, or Tripureswari, which is still to be seen in ruins at Udai-pur, the metropolis of Tipperah, and which still continues to hold a second rank among the sacred shrines in this part of Bengal. The annals of this State comprehend two distinct epochs, the traditional and the historical, the former of which is narrated in a work, called the Rajmala, while the latter, commencing from the year 1407, is found recorded in the writings of Mussalman chroniclers. According to Rajmala, the Chiefs of Tipperah claim their descent from Drujho, a son of Yayati, a celebrated king of the Lunar race. There are only two principal points of interest, revealed in the early accounts of this State, worth mentioning, viz the constant internecine feuds with the chiefs of neighbouring States, excepting that of Gachar, and the fearful growth of the cruel practices, associated with, the worship of Siva, the god of destruction. His worship was celebrated with the offering of human sacrifices, and to such an extent was this barbarous practice carried that till the middle of the 15th century no less than 1,000 victims were sacrificed on the altar of this deity every year in Tipperah alone. It was Dharma Manik, (1407—1439) who put a stop to this disgraceful destruction of human life, by ordering that instead of offering human lives every year, such sacrifices should only be performed triennially.

It is not possible to define the territorial extent of this principality at any particular period, yet its rule extended from the Sundarbans, in the west, to the outskirts of Burmah in the east, and towards north, as far as Kamrup. As regards military achievements the State of Tipperah had reached its zenith during the reign of Shri Dhanya, who, in the middle of the 16th century, invaded and subjugated all the neighbouring principalities. In 1512 the Raja of Tipperah conquered Chittagong from the hands of the Gaur troops that defended it. The Mughals made several unsuccessful

ful attempts to obtain a footing within the domains subject to the Raja of Tipperah. At last in 1620, during the reign of Emperor Jahangir, a powerful Mughal army, under the command of Nawab Fatteh Jung, invaded Tipperah, ostensibly with the object of procuring horses and elephants. Udaipur, the capital of Tipperah, fell into the hands of the invaders and the Raja was taken prisoner and sent to Delhi. He resolutely declined the offer of being reinstated on the throne on his agreeing to pay an annual tribute to the Mughal Emperor. The Mughal troops continued to occupy the conquered district, when after a couple of years, they were compelled to evacuate it, on account of a strong epidemic raging in that part of the country. In 1625, the people of Tipperah raised one Kalyan Manik to the throne, and attempted to enforce his claim through the Nawab of Bengal, who once made an unsuccessful attempt to regain Tipperah. The Mahomedans, after several years of constant invasions and intrigues, succeeded in occupying only the low-lands of Tipperah, while the hilly tracts continued to be in the possession of the native Raja, though under the nominal control of the Nawab of Bengal. When the East India Company obtained the Diwani of Bengal in 1765, a portion of Tipperah also came under the British rule. At that time Tipperah was governed by a Mughal chieftain, but the British Government recognising the claims of one Krishna Manik, a scion of the late royal family, raised him to the throne. Krishna Manik died about 1780, without leaving any male issue to succeed him to the *gadi*. The dowager Rani, Janhavi Mahalevi, carried on the administration for some time, when, at her own request, the Supreme Government recognised her nephew, Rajdhar Manik, as the Raja of Tipperah. At the death of Rajdhar Manik, towards the close of the last century, anarchy prevailed throughout the province. At last in 1808, the British Government recognised the claims of Durga Manik and installed him on the throne of Tipperah.

On the death of Durga Manik, his rival, Ram Ganga, who had been from the first urging his own claims to the *gadi*, was recognised as the Raja by the Supreme Government. In 1826, he, too, died and was succeeded by his brother, Kasi Chandra Manik. The new Chief ruled only for four years, and was in turn succeeded by his other brother, Krishna Kishor Manik. His rule lasted till 1850, when on his death, his son, Ishan Chandra Manik, ascended the *gadi*. The question of succession to the throne was again opened up in 1862, by the death of the Chief, and several claimants put forward their pretensions to the inheritance on this occasion.

The dispute lasted long, till, at last, it was finally settled in 1870, and, the late Chief's brother, Bir Chandra Manik, the present ruler of Tipperah, was acknowledged the rightful heir to the throne. The incessant raids from the Lushai tribes on the frontier were a constant source of anxiety and in order to safeguard the British interests in that quarter, a British Political Agent was, in 1871, stationed at Agartala, the Raja's capital. The Raja was given distinctly to understand that the object of the Agent's mission at Agartala was by no means to interfere with the legitimate exercise of his independent powers within his own domains, but only to keep a vigilant eye on the troublesome Lushai tribes, who, now and then, carried their incursions into the very heart of the British dominions. In 1878, the Agency was abolished as a separate establishment, the Magistrate of Tipperah being appointed as the ex-officio Agent, and a Deputy was stationed at the Raja's capital. But the removal of such a direct supervision was prejudicial to the interests of the Raj. The Raja, freed from all the salutary restraints, began to govern at his own sweet will and his mal-administration was made the subject of repeated reports to the Supreme Government. The matter came to a climax in 1889, when the Government at last saw the expediency of introducing the much desired reforms in the system of administration. The Maharaja was prevailed upon to appoint an experienced Minister, under the advice of the British Government, with full powers, and the appointment was to subsist for five years. In 1890, accordingly the choice of the Maharaja fell upon Rai Umakant Das Bahadur, the Assistant Political Agent, and his nomination was approved of by the Paramount Power.

This change in the *personnel* of the administration has already commenced to bear good fruit and the wisdom of their choice has been demonstrated by the growing prosperity of the State. The revenues have been steadily on the advance and some savings have been effected in the Treasury.

The British Government does not receive any tribute from the State and no treaty engagements have been entered into with it. The Raja of Tipperah holds several estates and *Zaminduries* in the British Districts of Noakhali, Tipperah and Sylhet, in the plains along the borders of the Raj.

The custom, which governs the succession to the *gadi* of Tipperah, is the same as prevails at Manipur. The ruling chief during his lifetime selects, from amongst his brothers and sons, the heir-apparent, who is styled.

the " Jubraj," and also a successor to the heir-apparent, who is designated the " Bara Thakur." On the death of the chief, the Jubraj steps into his place as the Raja and the mantle of the Jubraj falls over the shoulders of the " Bara Thakur." When no such nomination has been pre-arranged the king's eldest son succeeds in lieu of his natural-right. In cases of dispute as to the succession, the decision of the British Judicial courts as to the *Zamindaries* on the plains below, is accepted as authoritatively settling the claims over the chiefship of Hill Tipperah.

In 1870 the position of the State was declared to be feudatory and *nazarana* is ever since charged by the Suzerain on every fresh succession to the *gadi*.

Extradition treaties have been entered into with the State for the mutual surrender of offenders, who escape into foreign jurisdiction, and, since the establishment of the Agency at Tipperah marked improvements have been already visible in the general prosperity of the country. The lands have been surveyed under the supervision of the British Government and better arrangements have been made for the assessment of revenue.

There were several boundary disputes between the British and the Tipperah State as regards its north, west and southern boundary marks; and they were at last amicably settled through arbitrators on both sides in 1865. The eastern boundary, which touches the country of the Lushais, was also unsettled and it was a source of great complication and trouble between the two tribes. In 1874, the British intervened and decided that the Lungai river was to be the demarcating line between the two districts. On the south, the river Pheni was fixed to be the boundary mark between Tipperah and Chittagong.

Owing to the recent risings and disturbances in the Lushai hills, a considerable emigration has been the result and flocks of people from the Chittagong district have settled themselves in the Hill Tipperah. In the year 1886, large coal mines were discovered in the subdivisions of ~~Kailashahr~~ Kailashahr and Sonamuna, but the exact extent and capacity of the seams have not yet been precisely ascertained.

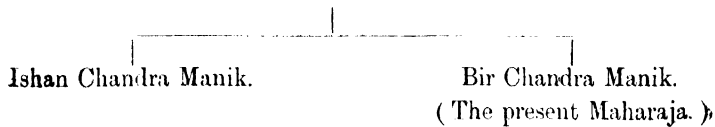
The Maharaja graciously put a stop to the inhuman practice of *Suttee* in his own dominions in 1888.

The Maharaja of Tipperah has been granted the right of adoption and receives a salute of 13 guns.

Genealogical tree.

Dharma Manik, Mukund Manik, Jaya Manik, Indra Manik, Bijaya Manik, Krishna Manik, Rajdhar Manik, Durga Manik, Ram Ganga Manik, Kasi Chandra Manik, and

Krishna Kishor Manik.



Residence.—Agartala, Bengal ; Northern India.



CHAPTER VI.

STATES ENTITLED TO A SALUTE OF 11 GUNS.



JHIND.

Area.—1268 sq. miles. Population.—284,560.

Revenue.—about 7,00,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north, by Karnal; on the east, by Panipat; on the south, by Ruhtak and the district of Hissar, and on the west, by Sarsa and a portion of the district of Hissar.

The rulers of Jhind have descended from the same ancestors as those of Patiala. This principality was founded by one Gajpat Sinh, in the year 1763. The Emperor of Delhi having confirmed him in his chieftdom in 1767, he enhanced the territorial extent of his dominions by conquering neighbouring tracts of land. He died in 1789 and as his eldest son, Meher Sinh, had died during his life-time he was succeeded by his second son, Bagh Sinh. It was during his reign that this State, for the first time, came in contact with the British Government. Bagh Sinh was the maternal uncle of the illustrious Ranjit Sinh of the Panjab. After the overthrow of the Marathas in 1805, he materially assisted Lord Lake in his campaigns against Holkar. The British Government, in recognition of such a signal service, conferred upon him for his life the districts of Kharkanda and Bhawani, which yielded him an annual revenue of 50,000 rupees, together with a portion

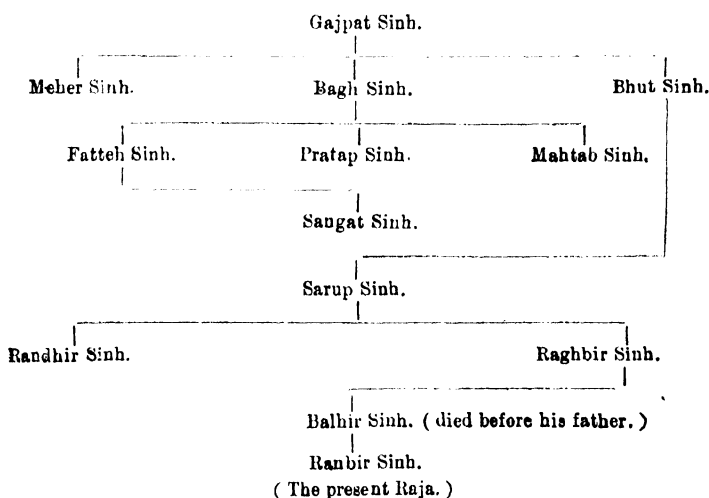
of the *Paragna* of Barsat Faridpur in the plains of Panipat. Bagh Sinh, dying in 1819, was succeeded by his eldest son, Fattah Sinh, who expired after a short reign of 3 years. He was succeeded by his son, Sangat Sinh, who, after a rule extending over 12 years, died in 1834, without leaving any issue. Nothing worthy of record appears to have occurred during his reign. This principality lapsed to the British Government for want of an heir to the throne, but after some time one Sarup Sinh, a distant relative of the deceased Raja, advanced his claims to the *gadi*. The British Government, after carefully investigating them, declared him a rightful heir, and placed him in charge of the State. The entire extent of Jhind, however, was not restored to him; the British Government retaining half of what they had sequestered. Sarup Sinh assisted the English in the Sikh Wars and, in return, they granted him and his heirs an estate, which brought them every year an additional income of 1,000 rupees. He also assisted the English during the troublous times of the Indian Mutiny in 1857, by himself repairing to Delhi at the head of his troops to effect its deliverance from the hands of the rebels. The British Government rewarded his services by the grant of certain territories, yielding him every year a further revenue of 1,16,800 rupees. It was, however, agreed that the Raja should always remain loyal to the British Throne, and should assist them in times of war with both men and money. In 1860 the British Government presented the Raja with a deed of adoption and acknowledged him as an independent sovereign of the whole estate heretofore inherited and acquired by him. They also bestowed upon him the Kanoud Tehsil of the Jajhar territory, in return whereof, he paid to the British Government a *Nazarana* of 370,000 rupees. Raja Sarup Sinh died in the month of January 1864, and was succeeded by his second son, Raghbir Sinh, his eldest son, Randhir Sinh, having died before him. He repaired to Calcutta to do homage to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales on his arrival in India in December 1875, where he was decorated with the insignia of the Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, at the grand Chapter of the Star of India on 1st January 1876.

On January 1st 1877, in honor of the assumption by H. I. M. Queen Victoria of the most dignified title of the "Empress of India," His Highness was present at the Imperial Assemblage held at Delhi by Lord Lytton, the Viceroy and Governor General. At this Darbar his salute was raised from 11 to 13 guns, and he was dignified with the title of the "Counsellor of the Empress." On 1st January 1878 the Raja was also

declared an ex-officio Companion and Member of the Order of the Indian Empire. The title of "Raja-i-Rajagan" was conferred upon the Raja in 1881. Raghbir Singh expired on 7th March 1887, and was succeeded by his grandson, Ranbir Singh, the present Raja, as a minor. During his minority the State is administered by a council of Regency, appointed by the Supreme Government.

The Raja of Jhind has been granted the right of adoption and receives a salute of 11 guns.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Jhind, Punjab; Northern India.



NABHA.

Area.—936 sq. miles. Population.—282,756.

Revenue.—7,00,000 rupees.

The State of Nabha is bounded on the north by Sarhind ; on the east by Patiala ; on the south by Hissar, and on the west by the Satlej river and a portion of the British territory.

The rulers of Nabha enjoy the title of 'Raja' and are Sikhs of the Jat tribe, tracing their descent from Tilok, the eldest son of Chaudhari Phul. The Rajas of Jhind belong to the same stock as those of Nabha, while those of Patiala have descended from the younger branch of Phul. All these families are known by the name of 'Phulkian.' When Maharaja Ranjit Singh invaded the Cis-Satlej estates in 1807, the Raja of Nabha implored the protection of the English Government. A treaty was, for the first time, concluded between the English and Jaswant Singh, the Chief of Nabha, in 1809, by which the British Government guaranteed protection to the rulers of Nabha, against the aggressions of their more powerful foes. Jaswant Singh, dying in 1840, was succeeded by his son, Devendra Singh. He commenced his career by setting at naught the stipulations entered into between his father and the British Crown, and when a war was declared, in 1845, between the English and the Sikhs, he openly espoused the cause of the latter, and fought against his father's allies and protectors. At the conclusion of the war, which terminated in favour of the English, he was dethroned and awarded an annual pension of 50,000 rupees. A fourth part of his territories was equally distributed between the chiefs of Patiala and Faridkot, while the remaining three-fourths were restored to his son, Bharpur Singh, who was installed on the *gadi* and recognised by the Imperial Government as the Raja of Nabha.

In 1857, during the troublous times of the Indian Mutiny, Bharpur Singh did yeoman service to the British Crown, in recognition whereof he was granted a portion of the Jajhar territory, yielding an yearly income of 106,000 rupees, on express condition of his assisting the English in times of war. A *Sanad* was conferred on him similar to those granted to the Rajas of Jhind and Patiala in 1860. In 1862 he was granted a deed of adoption, while the *Paragnas* of Kanaud and Budwanah, forming part of the Jajhar territory, were bestowed upon him, on his paying to the British Government the sum of 9,50,500 rupees as *nazarana*. Raja Bharpur Singh died in the

month of November 1863. As he left no issue, the *gadi* was next occupied by his younger brother, Bhagwan Sinh. Some time after the demise of Bharpur Sinh, it was rumoured that he was poisoned. A commission was appointed, consisting of a British officer and the Maharajas of Patiala and Jhind, to investigate into the truth of such a serious allegation.

The result of the inquiry was that the alleged rumour was found to be altogether vague and groundless.

Raja Bhagwan Sinh was a staunch ally and friend of the English. After a peaceful rule of 8 years he expired in 1871. He died without leaving any offspring, and the succession next devolved upon one of his distant relatives, Hira Sinh. He is the present Raja of Nabha and was born in the year 1843.

The Raja, as the feudatory lord of his vassals, the Sonthi Sikhs, put forward certain monetary claims against them, in lieu of personal service in the field which they were bound to render; these they disputed. There was also a standing quarrel with regard to their respective shares of the revenue of certain villages. It was an old quarrel dating back as far as 1820. An arrangement came to in 1861, with the approval of the Government of India, had fixed the sum payable by the Raja at 5,000 rupees in settlement of all the matters of dispute. The other party, being dissatisfied with the arrangement, appealed to the Government, who, after a full investigation of the claims of both the parties, arrived at the conclusion in 1869 that the share of the Sonthi Sikhs in the revenues of the villages amounted to 24,500 rupees, whereas the claims of the State to the escheats, personal service and confiscated and restored territories, were valued at 11502 rupees, the balance payable by the State was 12,998 rupees per annum. The Sonthi Sikhs were given a choice between the land revenue of the above amount and the assignment of certain villages, yielding an annual income of 8000 rupees on certain specified conditions. They chose the former and the full payment was made by the State in 1872.

Hira Sinh was present at the Imperial Assemblage held at Delhi, the Mussalman capital of India, under the presidency of H. E. Lord Lytton, the then Viceroy, on the 1st of January 1877, in honor of the assumption by H. I. M. Queen Victoria of the dignified title of 'Empress of India.' The Raja was honoured with an increase in his salute which was raised from 11 to 13 guns as a personal distinction.

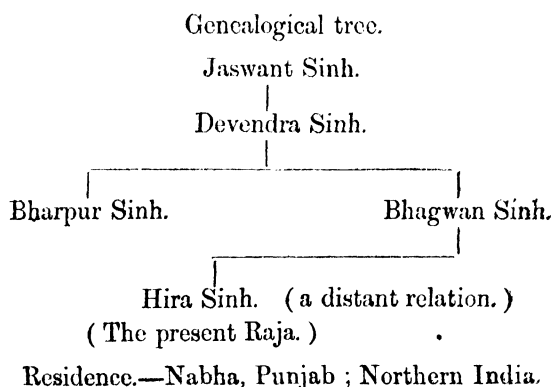
In 1879, the Raja was created a Knight Grand Commander of the *Star of India*, in recognition of the services of the splendid contingent furnished by the Raja to be employed in the second Afghan Campaign.

In 1884 the jurisdiction over the territory taken up by the Rajputana Malwa Railway was ceded to the Government. A postal convention for the exchange of postal communication was executed in the same year.

The Patiala Jaipur Extradition Code has been extended to the border territory of the State, contiguous to that of the Alwar and Jaipur States.

The State is under the political supervision of the Lieutenant Governor of the Punjab.

The Raja of Nabha has judicial powers of life and death and enjoys a salute of 11 guns.



PANNA.

Panna is bounded on the north by the Charkhari State and the Bande district ; on the east, by Kothi, Sohwal, Nagode and Ajaigarh ; on the south, by the Jabalpur and Damoh districts, and on the west, by the territories of Chhatarpur and Ajaigarh.

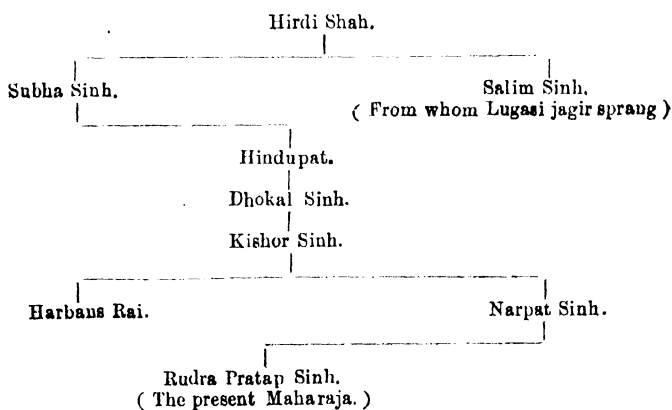
The Maharajas of Panna are Bundela Rajputs of the ancient Solar race. They are descended from the same family of ancestors as the Maharajas of Urehha. The kingdom of Panna was founded by Hirdi Shah, the son of the famous Chhatra Sal, who played such an important part in the annals of Urehha. At first Panna commanded an annual income of 38,46,143 rupees ; but it was greatly reduced by the internecine feuds and the predatory incursions from without, which greatly distracted the province at the close of the last century. The State was torn into little shreds, each of which set up independence for itself. After the death of Hirdi Shah, Subha Sinh, Hindupat, Dhokal Sinh, and Kishor Sinh sat on the Panna *gadi* successively. In the year 1803, the States of Bundelkhand, including Panna, were brought under the sheltering hand of the British Government. At this period Kishor Sinh ruled over Panna, and he in 1807 entered into a mutual alliance with the British. He, thereby, swore to be ever loyal to the Paramount Power, which in its turn, acknowledged the title of the Chief, and assured him of its protection. Raja Kishor Sinh, however, led a very dissolute life and had to be deposed by the British Government. He was banished and, during his exile, he died in 1834. He was succeeded on the throne by his son, Harbans Rai, who ruled till 1849. In that year he expired, leaving no issue behind him ; his brother, Narpat Sinh, consequently, ascended the *gadi* of Panna. At the time of the great Mutiny, in 1857, this Chief rendered yeoman service to the British in their hour of distress ; in recognition of which the British Government conferred upon Narpat Sinh a rich dress of honour, of the value of twenty thousand rupees, and a permanent salute of eleven guns. In 1862, the Maharaja received a *sanad*, authorising the rulers of Panna to adopt an heir. In 1867, he also received another *sanad* conferring on him under certain conditions, supreme criminal jurisdiction within his dominions. In 1867 the title of "*Mahendar*" was conferred upon him in recognition of his loyalty to the Paramount Power. He expired in 1870, and on his death, the heir-apparent, Rudra Pratap Sinh, was installed on the *gadi*. He is the present ruling Maharaja of Panna.

Maharaja Rudra Pratap Singh had the honour of visiting His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the heir-presumptive to the august throne of England, at Calcutta on 23rd December 1875. The Royal visitor with his own hands conferred upon the Maharaja the title of "Knight Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India" at a grand Chapter of the Star of India on 5th January 1876.

The Maharaja also attended the Imperial Assemblage, held at Delhi, the ancient capital of Hindustan, on the 1st January 1877, on the occasion of the assumption of the proud title of the "Empress of India" by Her Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. Here the Maharaja was honoured with an increase in his salute from 11 to 13 guns as a personal distinction.

The Maharaja of Panna has judicial inferior powers and receives a salute of 11 guns.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Panna, Bundelkhand ; Central India.



AJAIGARH.

Area.—802 sq. miles. Population 93,020.

Revenue.—2,25,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the Charkhari State and Barda District; on the south and east, by the Panna State; and on the west, by the Chhatarpur State.

The Maharajas of Ajaigarh are Surya Vanshi Rujputs of the Bundela race; and they belong to the much respected family of the Maharajas of Urchha or Tehri. They were originally styled Rajas of Barda. The State was founded by Jagat Raj, the second son of Chhatra Sal, the well-known Bundela Sardar. When Bundelkhand was partitioned among the sons of Chhatra Sal on his death in 1784, the Ajaigarh territory fell to the lot of Jagat Raj. His successors were Kirat Sinh, Guman Sinh and Vakhat Sinh. The last named monarch was deposed and driven away by Ali Bahadur, and to such a miserable plight was he reduced by his successful adversary that he was constrained to accept the niggardly pittance of two rupees a day for his maintenance. At length when Bundelkhand was occupied by a British army in 1803, the British Government agreed to give him a monthly pension of 3,000 *Gauhar Shahi* rupees. In 1807 a *Sanad* was passed to him, by virtue of which a portion of his territory was transferred to him. His pension was stopped from the very next year. Another misfortune soon overtook him; he was deprived of the possession of the fortress of Ajaigarh and some portion of the neighbouring country, by one Lakshman Deo, a military adventurer, but the British bayonet was not slow to come to his aid. The new acquisitions were wrenched from the leader and handed over to their legitimate owner. The unfortunate prince died in 1847. The next princes to occupy the throne were Madhav Sinh and Mahipat Sinh. The latter died in 1853 and was succeeded by Vijaya Sinh. He died a minor. His half-brother, Ranjor Sinh, who succeeded him in 1855, is the present Maharaja of Ajaigarh. He has two sons, Raja Bahadur Bhopal Sinh and Jayapal Sinh, who are 28 and 18 years old respectively.

As at the time of his accession the Maharaja was a minor, the British Government appointed a Council of Regency for the conduct of the administration of the State; and when in 1868 the Maharaja reached the age of majority, he was installed on the throne and invested with absolute powers.

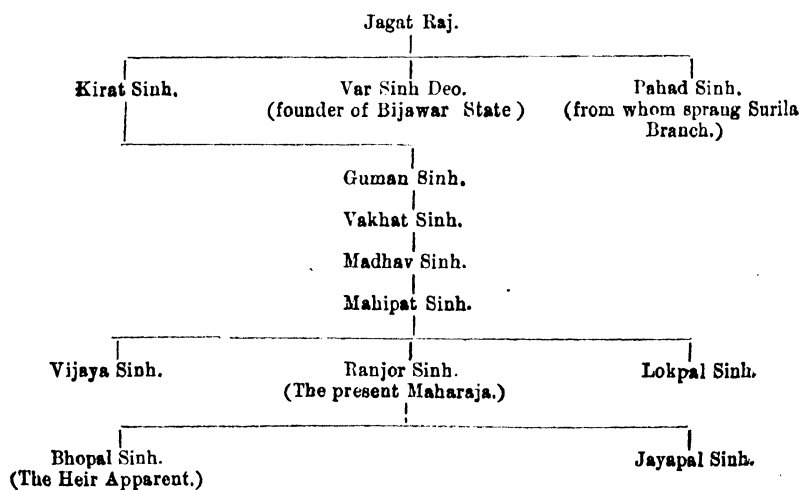
The Maharaja attended the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi where he received the dignified appellation of 'Sawai' as an hereditary distinction.

The State enjoys complete criminal jurisdiction by virtue of a *Sanad* dated 1887, granted to Raja Ranjor Sinh ; it has, however, been interpreted in a restrictive sense by exempting European British subjects and persons of European or American nationality from its jurisdiction.

The State has to pay a quarter of its revenue by way of *Nazarana* to the Government on each direct succession and double the amount in case of succession by adoption.

The Maharaja of Ajaigarh has been granted the right of adoption and receives a salute of 11 guns.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Nanshahr, Bundelkhand ; Central India.



BANSWARA.

Area.—1,322 sq. miles. Population.—211,641.

Revenue.—204,110 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north and north-west by Dungarpur and Mewad ; on the east and north-east, by Pratapgarh ; on the south, by the petty States of Central India Agency ; and on the west, by the Rewa Kantha States of the Bombay Presidency.

The founder of the principality of Banswara was Jagmal Sinh, the younger brother of the chief, who founded Dungarpur, claiming his descent from the renowned family of the Sisodia Ranas of Mewad. He subjugated the turbulent Bhils, and set up a small chiefdom. He was, after his death, succeeded by Maha Rawal Pratap Sinh. Akbar marched upon his capital in person and after a short scuffle between the mighty Emperor and the petty Raja, the latter sought shelter in the adjoining hills. The Emperor did not withdraw his troops until Pratap Sinh fell at his feet and swore fealty to his august throne. When the strong hillfort of Komalmer was conquered, on behalf of the Emperor, by Raja Bhagwan Das of Jaipur and his son, the celebrated Raja Man Sinh, in 1578, the heroic Rana, Pratap, took refuge in the mountain defiles within the territory of Banswara, obtaining secret support from the undaunted Rawal, Pratap Sinh. In 1603 the chief of Banswara created a disturbance in the territory, subject to the Emperor of Delhi, and an army was sent against him under the command of Mirza Shahrukh. The natural defences formed by the surrounding mountains and the military strength of the Maha Rawal proved serious impediments to the progress of the advancing army ; and the Mughal commander was forced to retreat without gaining his object.

After the death of Pratap Sinh, the throne of Banswara was successively occupied by Man Sinh, Agar Sinh, Udayabhan Sinh, Samar Sinh, Kusal Sinh, Ajab Sinh, Bhim Sinh, Bighan Sinh, Udaya Sinh, Prithi Sinh, Bijai Sinh and Umed Sinh.

All these chiefs of Banswara acknowledged the supremacy of the Mughal government till the death of Emperor Aurangzeb in 1707. The Marathas, who had since then grown powerful, frequently invaded Banswara and compelled Umed Sinh to recognize their supremacy. Though the reigning prince acknowledged the sovereignty of the Marathas, his

territory was not delivered from the clutches of the greedy freebooters, who constantly invaded and laid waste his dominions. Rawal Umed Sinh in 1812 proposed to the British Government, through the Resident of Baroda, to admit him within the pale of their protection. The main gist of the proposal was that the English should at once put a stop to the incursions of Sindhia, Holkar, the Puwar prince of Dhar and other Maratha chiefs, who were, by their constant raids, rendering the territory of Banswara desolate; and the Maha Rawal in return agreed to pay them a stipulated tribute. The Resident of Baroda forwarded this proposal to the Resident of Delhi, through an agent of the Banswara Darbar. He was received at Delhi with all the consideration due to his rank, but no definite step was taken in furtherance of the proposed agreement. Five years later, in the month of September 1818, a treaty was concluded between the English and the chief of Banswara, by which the latter obtained the protection of the British arms. It was also arranged that the Rawal should pay annually to the English in return of their services, a sum amounting to three-eighths of his revenues. Umed Sinh, however, at once perceived that the time of danger had long since passed away and that the tribute demanded by the English was too much for the resources of his State, and he requested the Supreme Government to cancel the terms agreed upon. Such a vacillating conduct on the part of the Rawal aroused the anger of the British authorities, who distinctly refused to allow him to sever from the allegiance he had already sworn to their Raj. In the meantime, it was made publicly known that the Chief of Dungarpur and Maha Rawal Umed Sinh of Banswara were opening negotiations with the chief of Dhar, to whom they promised to resume their payment of tribute. The British Government yielded a little, and expressed their desire to form a fresh alliance, in accordance with which, new stipulations were agreed upon between both the parties in the month of November 1825. Under these terms, the English guaranteed their protection to the Banswara State, in return whereof, the Rawal bound himself and his descendants to desist from forming any political alliance with his friends, relations or neighbouring princes, such as the prince of Dhar. The English also consented not to charge the State with more than three-eighths of its revenues for the expenses incurred in protecting it against foreign aggression. This amount was afterwards fixed at 35,000 rupees. It was also conceded that for three years, this sum might be paid at such intervals as not to drain the resources of the State, but that it was to be paid regularly in the future.

The Government now directed their attention towards extirpating the Bhils and their predatory gangs who, issuing from the neighbouring *Jungles*, plundered the villages and often murdered innocent way-farers. Their efforts were crowned with success, and the security of life and property brought in its train a handsome increase in the revenues of the State. All their best endeavours were, however, frustrated by Prince Bhawani Sinh, then administering the affairs of the State, who, with his Diwan, began to lead a life of general dissoluteness. The bacchanalian orgies, in which they indulged freely, cost them large sums of money and there were not left in the treasury funds enough to regularly pay the tribute to the British Government. The Political Agent in 1835 reported the matter to the India Government, complaining in bitter terms of the remissness of the Prince. A Government resolution was soon issued in which the Political Officer was advised to adopt prompt means to remedy the evil. The Agent first expostulated with Bhawani Sinh and his minister to give up their immoral ways, but his wholesome advice failed to produce the desired effect. That officer then demanded the dismissal of the reprobate minister, and took severe measures for the realisation of the outstanding debts. Maha Rawal Bhawani Sinh did not long survive the dismissal of his favourite minister. As he left no issue, the leading nobility of the State, with the assent of the Political Agent, selected for their sovereign, a kinsman of the late chief and installed him on the *gadi*. His name was Bahadur Sinh. He was the rightful claimant to the Banswara throne. Bahadur Sinh, too, died childless and one of his relations, Lakshman Sinh, was duly adopted and seated on the *gadi*. Man Sinh, the Thakore of Khandu, offered a strong resistance to the accession of Lakshman Sinh, saying that his son was more nearly allied to the deceased Raja than the prince upon whom the choice of the nobility had fallen. This dispute was brought to an end by an amicable settlement, by which it was arranged that Lakshman Sinh should continue to reign at Banswara, and that out of the annual tribute paid by the Thakore of Khandu, 1,300 rupees be every year remitted in consideration of his relinquishing his rights to the Banswara throne. These terms being settled, Man Sinh withdrew his claim and Lakshman Sinh was securely seated on the *gadi*. He received a *sanad*, conferring upon him the right of adoption in 1862, Lakshman Sinh is the present Maha Rawal of Banswara and has one son, named Shambhu Sinh.

In 1865 the State ceded certain lands free of compensation for Railway purposes, as also its jurisdiction thereon.

Next year an altogether trumpery affair was got up by the State against its feudatory prince, the Rao of Kusalgarh. The charge related to an alleged attack by the Kusalgarh men on a police station of the State, the rescuing of a person arrested and loss of two lives during the struggle. The Kusalgarh State, when called upon by the Government to explain its conduct, maintained silence. Its villages in Ratlam were consequently attached. On further inquiry it was found out that the complaint was baseless and false and the State had manufactured evidence. The Government reduced the salute of the State in 1869 for a period of six years, and compensation, to the extent of 6267, was awarded to the Kusalgarh State, to be paid by the remission of the tribute payable by the latter, which, however, as a safe-guard against future complications, was to be tendered annually. Interference on the part of the Banswara Darbar in the internal affairs of Kusalgarh was prohibited, leaving the latter a free hand for the purpose of correcting its pernicious customs. The Rao of Kusalgarh was required to pay the tribute punctually and to satisfy every lawful demand of the parent State made through the representatives of the British Government. An Assistant Political Agent was deputed, whose salary and establishment charges were to be defrayed out of an increased tribute of 15,000 *Salim Shahi* coins (= 11741-10 rupees.); the balance to be utilized in works of public utility.

The State was again brought under difficulty in 1873, by an unprovoked attack on its part on a border village, the possession of which was claimed by the State as against Pratapgarh. It was again found guilty of supporting its case by means of false evidence. The Government informed the Maha Rawal that his full salute would not be restored, which was not done till 1880.

In 1883, certain rules were approved by the British Government to be enforced in Banswara and Pratapgarh with the object of facilitating the extradition of criminals.

In 1884, the arrangement as to the defraying of the office establishment was modified by charging the States of Banswara and Pratapgarh on some fixed proportion.

An extradition treaty was concluded in 1868, which was subsequently modified in 1887, whereby it was agreed that the procedure for the time

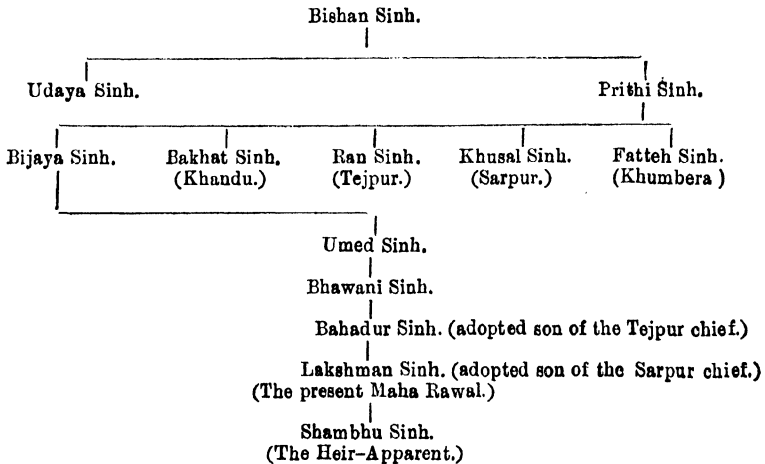
being in force in British India was to be followed in trials of extradited criminals.

In 1889, the embarrassed condition of the State treasury induced the Government to reduce the additional tribute and the previous balance was credited in the account in lieu of the arrears.

The Maha Rawal of Banswara has judicial powers of life and death and enjoys a salute of 11 guns.

Gencalogical tree.

Jagmal Sinh, Pratap Sinh, Man Sinh, Agar Sinh, Udayabhan Sinh, Samar Sinh, Kusal Sinh, Ajab Sinh. Bhim Sinh and.—



Residence.—Banswara, Mewad Agency ; Rajput ana.



BAONI.

Area.—117 sq. miles. Population.—18,376.

Revenue.—1,00,000 rupees.

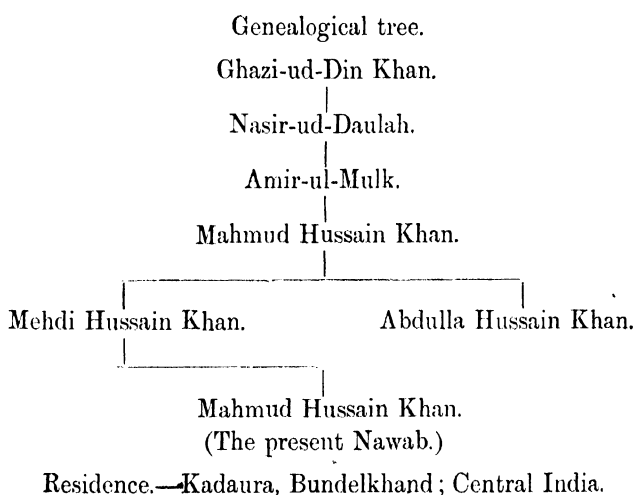
A grant of fifty two villages in Bundelkhand by the Peshwa to Nawab Ghazi-ud-Din Khan, the grand son of the great Nizam-ul-Mulk, gave birth to the present Mahomedan State of Baoni. The son of the grantee, Nasir-ud-Daulah, was in possession of forty-nine villages at the time of the British occupation ; three villages were captured by the Peshwa's generals without any orders from the head-quarters. In 1806 he put forward his claim to be recognized by the British Government as the person in possession ; and though his claim over the three villages was not supported by his possession, it was decided to recognize him as such. But some difficulty was raised in the granting of a *sanad*, which was postponed till the settlement of the Nawab of Kalpi's claim, on which depended much of the nature and extent of the Nawab's rights and privileges. During the enquiry it was found that the territory near Kalpi, where the Nawab's *jagir* was situate, was not ceded to them by the treaty of Bassein, and consequently the Government came to the conclusion that the right to grant a *sanad* to the Nawab about the fifty-two villages comprised in the Peshwa's grant did not belong to them. The Government, however, had no object in passing a deed, recognizing the validity of the Peshwa's grant. A letter was written by the Governor General to the Nawab to that effect in 1806. The effect of the cession by the Peshwa of all his sovereign rights to the British Government was to extinguish any right to independence, which the State could claim on the strength of that letter.

Nasir-ud-Daulah died in 1815 at Kalpi and his son and successor, Amir-ul Mulk, died in 1838. Mahmud Hussain Khan succeeded his father and continued to be at the head of the State affairs till 1856, when he intimated to the Government his desire to go to Mecca and entrust his State affairs to his son, Mehdi Hussain Khan, proposing an allowance of 9,000 rupees to be settled on the other members of his family. The Government sanctioned the arrangement, but the break-up of the Mutiny prevented the Nawab's proposed pilgrimage to Mecca. He died in 1859. The succession of Mehdi Hussain was recognized by the Government, despite the attempts of his brother, Abdulla Hussain Khan, to cast doubts on his legitimacy. In 1862 the Government assured the Nawab that any succession, lawful according to Mahomedan Law, would be confirmed, subject to certain pay-

ments of relief on every succession, other than lineal. In 1863 some additional privileges, complementary to this, were sanctioned by the Government as his reward for his courageous abolition of transit duties and such other measures. A *sanad* bestowing full criminal jurisdiction was granted to the Nawab in 1867. Seven years later, at his desire, the management of the State was taken by the Government. He abdicated in favour of his eldest son, Mahmud Hussain Khan, a youth of twenty-three.

The Baoni State ceded some lands for the Betwa canal in 1884, as well as the jurisdiction thereon. The Nawab was granted a *sanad* in 1887, for full criminal jurisdiction within his *jagir* on certain specified conditions, which was again revised and modified in 1891.

The Nawab of Baoni enjoys full criminal jurisdiction over his subjects and receives a salute of 11 guns.



BIJAWAR.

Area.—974 sq. miles. Population.—122,914.

Revenue.—225,000 rupees.

This principality is bounded on the north by the Chhatarpur State ; on the north-east, by the dominions of Panna and Ajaigarh; on the south, by the Nagode State; and on the west, by the Ghasan river.

The rulers of Bijawar are Surya Vanshi Rajputs of the Bundela tribe, and belong to the family of the Maharaja of Urchha. The State was founded by Bir Sinh Deo, the son of Jagat Raj, of whom we spoke in our account of Ajaigarh. He refused to acknowledge the supremacy of Ali Bahadur, with whom a battle was fought near Charkhari, in which the former was vanquished and slain. His son, Keshari Sinh, succeeded him. In 1803, when the British Government interfered in the affairs of Bundelkhand, he was on the Bijawar *gadi*, which he continued to enjoy till his death in 1810. His heir and successor, Ratan Sinh, received the *Sanad* of British protection on the 19th of April 1811; he expired on the 17th December 1833 without issue. His nephew, Lakshman Sinh, who succeeded him, died in 1847, after a short reign of fourteen years. He was succeeded by his son, Bhau Pratap Sinh, the present Maharaja.

The substantial help that he rendered to the Government in the dark days of the Mutiny was rewarded by a dress of honour and a permanent salute of eleven guns. In 1862, he was granted the right of adoption, and further in 1866, on him was conferred the title of "Maharaja." In 1867 he was invested with supreme criminal jurisdiction within his State under certain conditions. At the Imperial Assemblage of Delhi, Maharaja Bhau Pratap Sinh was honoured with the hereditary title of "Sawai." In 1887, full criminal powers were taken away from him and these are not yet restored to him.

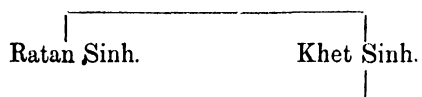
Maharaja Bhau Pratap Sinh has judicial inferior powers and receives a salute of 11 guns.

Genealogical tree.

Bir Sinh Deo.

|
Keshari Sinh.

|



Lakshman Sinh

Bhau Pratap Sinh.

(The present Maharaja.)

Residence.—Bijawar, Bundelkhand ; Central India.



CAMBAY.

Area.—350 sq. miles. Population.—89,722.

Revenue.—6,04,504 rupees.

This principality is bounded on the north by Matar in Kaira ; on the east, by Borsad in Kaira and Petlad in Baroda ; on the south, by the gulf ; and on the west, by the Sabarmati.

The Nawab of Cambay is a Mahomedan of Mughal extraction. It was while the whole province of Gujarat was overrun by the scattered bands of the Maratha freebooters in the opening years of the 18th century, and while the once glorious Mughal Empire was lying prostrate on its death-bed, and the several governors assumed independence, in the various provinces entrusted to their care, that the Suba of Cambay broke off his allegiance to the Mughal Viceroy stationed at Ahmedabad and set up an independent government in the year 1730.

The founder of this principality, Mirza Jafar *alias* Mamin Khan I., was descended from the house of Nizam-i-Sani, a member of the celebrated Cabinet of the seven ministers that adorned the Court of Shah Ismail Safavi of Persia in 1500. His descendant, Mirza Jafar, unable to maintain the dignity of his house, left his native land for Gujarat in about 1720. At that time Emperor Mahmud Shah was on the Imperial *Masnad* and the Viceroyalty of Gujarat was held by Mubariz-ul-Mulk. The latter conferred on Mirza Jafar, in 1725, the title of Nizam-ud-Daulah and appointed him collector (*Ijardar*) of Petlad. He married Oliya Begam, the daughter of Mirza Abdul Hussain Dehlami Momin Khan, the Agent to the Viceroy for Cambay and Surat. The official position as the *Ijardar* of Petlad coupled with the high social status, attained by his marriage with the daughter of such a high dignitary, brought this new emigrant into prominence and he steadily rose till he became the Nawab of Cambay. In 1730, Chimnaji Appa, the brother of Balaji Rao, the then reigning Peshwa, marched upon Cambay, and exacting tributes of 300,000 rupees and 200,000 rupees from Cambay and Petlad, mercilessly sacked the district of Dholka.

The oppression and greediness of Chimnaji Appa and his train struck terror into the heart of Mirza Abdul Hussain Dehlami, the Agent of Cambay, who began to grow apprehensive that the commercial prosperity of Cambay might receive a terrible shock at the hands of these enemies to public peace and tranquillity. In addition to the ravages of the Marathas,

bands of lawless Mussalmans also began to roam about the province and overrun the whole country. The Marathas once more fell upon Cambay and pillaged it. The mercantile classes fled for their lives, leaving their houses and valuables to the mercy of the plunderers. The Marathas demanded an equal share in the revenues derived from the maritime trade, and threatened the Mahomedan officer that in case their demand was refused, they would sack and burn the city and carry away the produce of the whole district.

About this time (1730) some difference arose between the Viceroy of Gujarat and Mirza Jafar, the Collector of Petlad, and the latter proceeded to Delhi to appeal to the good sense of the Emperor. Mirza Jafar was cordially received at the Imperial Court and the Viceroyalty of Gujarat being entrusted at his instance to Maharaja Abhay Sinh of Jodhpur, he returned with the new Suba to his own district. Abhay Sinh, pleased with the many sterling qualities of Mirza Jafar, appointed him pay-master general of the Imperial troops, stationed in Gujarat, and at the same time nominated him as his Agent for Gujarat and Cambay. Not only did Mirza Jafar receive such a high promotion in the Imperial service, but his cousin Fila-ud-Din Khan, too, was provided with a suitable place in the revenue department.

When Abhay Sinh returned to Jodhpur, entrusting the affairs of Gujarat to his Deputy (*Mootalig*) Ratan Sinh in 1732, Mirza Jafar, by his skill and probity succeeded in securing the favour and confidence of that officer also. Ratan Sinh, however, suspected that Mirza Jafar was secretly instigating Sorab Khan to seize the Suba-ship of Viramgam; and this circumstance estranged their feelings in 1735. Mirza Jafar began to fear that Cambay would be taken away from his hands, but happily that fear was soon dispelled.

The Emperor of Delhi removed Abhay Sinh from the post of the Viceroy of Gujarat and appointed Mirza Jafar in his place. That officer proceeded to Ahmedabad to take charge of his new post, but Ratan Sinh offered him a strong resistance. Mirza Jafar sought the assistance of Damaji Rao Gaekwad and agreed to part with half the revenues of Gujarat, excepting those annually derived from Ahmedabad and Cambay, in case the Gaekwad on his part agreed to supply him with sufficient troops to obtain possession of Ahmedabad. Damaji Rao and Mirza Jafar signified their brotherly love and concern for each other by exchanging their turbans. The Gaekwad sent his troops under the command of his

lieutenant, Rangoji, with orders to co-operate with the army of Mirza Jafar in expelling Ratan Sinh from the citadel of Ahmedabad. The combined armies besieged the fort but were beaten back. While they lay encamped in the vicinity of the fort, Ratan Sinh, issuing out of his stronghold, surrendered to his antagonists. Thus did Ahmedabad fall into the hands of Mirza Jafar on 20th May 1737, and from that date the revenues and the jurisdiction throughout the province of Gujarat were shared equally by the Mughals and the Marathas according to the terms of the above-mentioned stipulation.

Mirza Jafar, assuming the viceroyalty of Gujarat, entrusted Cambay to his son-in-law, Nazam Khan. The Viceroy enjoyed the high dignity conferred on him by the Emperor for five years, and died in February 1743.

After the demise of Mirza Jafar *alias* Momin Khan I., the Viceroyalty of Gujarat was next bestowed on Abdul Aziz Khan. While the newly appointed officer was proceeding to take charge of his post he was opposed by Damaji Rao Gaekwad, and in a scuffle, was defeated and slain. In 1744, Fakir-ud-Daula was despatched from Delhi to take possession of Ahmedabad, but on his arrival there he, too, was obstructed by a party of the Gaekwad's troops, stationed there, under the command of Rangoji. Damaji was then absent at Satara, and Rangoji strongly resisted the entry of the new viceroy into the metropolis. Damaji Rao, on his return to Gujarat, discredited the Royal *Sanad*, under which Fakir-ud-Daula claimed possession of Ahmedabad and lending his support to Muftakhir Khap *alias* Momin Khan II., the son of Mirza Jafar, (whom he had recognised as his brother by the exchange of turbans) obtained for him the viceroyalty of Gujarat.

Babi Kamal-ud-Din Khan *alias* Jawan Mard Khan II. then held the place of Nayab-Suba under Muftakhir Khan. The two officers did not long pull on well together and the Babi, who was then the most powerful and influential person in the State, succeeded in wresting the viceroyalty from the hands of Muftakhir Khan, and turned him out of Ahmedabad. The son and heir of Mirza Jafar, thus dispossessed of his dignity, proceeded to Cambay, and for five years carried on intrigues at the Imperial Court to be reinstated in his former place. Failing in these attempts, he at last murdered his brother-in-law, Nazam Khan, in 1748, and assumed the government of Cambay. The Emperor, Ahmud Shah, confirmed him in his place at Cambay and, as a mark of royal favour,

conferred on him the titles of 'Nur-ud-Din Mahmud Khan Momin Khan Bahadur' and 'a member of the legion of the six thousand nobles at the Imperial Court.'

Fida-ud-Khan, the uncle of Muftakhir Khan, on receiving intelligence of the death of Nazam Khan, marched towards Cambay, under the pretext of offering condolence to the family of the deceased; but divining his true motive, Muftakhir Khan did not allow his uncle to enter the gates of the city.

Muftakhir Khan had thus paved his way to the chiefship of Cambay, by mercilessly shedding the blood of his own brother-in-law. As if that act of infamy alone was not sufficient to heap disgrace upon his name, he added to his cruelty by administering poison to his step-sister, Nur Jahan *alias* Khanum Begam, the widow of the unfortunate Nazam Khan.

When Muftakhir Khan learnt, in 1752, that the revenues of Gujarat were partitioned between the Gaekwad and the Peshwa, he entreated the latter to include Cambay within his share, and the Peshwa expressing his assent, the Nawab gave him in royalty (*Nazarana*) the sum of Rs. 7,000 together with four small guns. In April 1753, Raghunath Rao, the brother of Balaji Rao II., levied from Cambay a tribute of Rs. 10,000. The rainy season was no doubt drawing nigh, but when the Maratha general, Shripat Rao, learnt that a portion of the city wall round Cambay had fallen down, he caused a false rumour to be circulated that he was marching towards Cambay only with a view to see that commercial emporium of Gujarat. Thus putting the Nawab on a false scent, Shripat Rao, at the head of his choice cavalry and a band of 500 veteran Mavalis, first lay encamped near Petlad, and began to make preparations for a secret and sudden sally on the fort of Cambay. Vrajlal, the Diwan of Cambay, had then gone to Bombay, but hearing on his return journey that Shripat Rao had lain encamped near Petlad, he directed his course thither to obtain an interview with the Maratha general. The shrewd Diwan could easily gather from his conversation with the general that he was intent upon directing a secret attack on Cambay and, sending his spies to Muftakhir Khan, forewarned him to be on his guard against the impending onslaught. The Nawab at once ordered the city walls to be repaired and put the army in a state of war.

Shripat Rao on the appointed day, marched from Petlad in the evening, hoping to reach Cambay at mid-night. He, however, lost his way and

no trace of Cambay could be obtained till day-break. At last he gained the outskirts of the city in the morning, but found the breach, through which he had concerted to enter the town, made up and the whole wall strengthened by fresh earth-work. Baffled in his design, Shripat Rao ordered his brave men to scale the walls and the Mavalis, leading the forlorn hope, escalated the gates of the city, but were repulsed with a heavy loss by the defending garrison. Muftakhir Khan had all the while concealed himself in a place of security. The Marathas raised the siege, but, encamping themselves in the neighbourhood, they laid waste the whole country by their marauding excursions. They carried on their raids continuously for a week and overran several of the villages under Cambay. At last the Nawab paid the Maratha general Rs. 7,000 and he led his bands back to their native land.

The poor ryots were squeezed of their last farthing by these ruthless depredators, and the loss of property was so immense that the Nawab could realize nothing from the annual yield of the soil for the ensuing year. Muftakhir Khan increased his army to meet such exigencies in future, for he was now convinced that the Marathas were not likely to remain contented, but would harass him by repeated attacks on his wealthy capital. To meet the expenses of the enhanced army, he extorted money from his miserable subjects, who were already reduced to the verge of starvation by the recent plunders of the Marathas. This additional drain on their purse drove them to desperation, and, leaving aside all pursuits, they lived in extreme penury, till they were relieved by the merciful hand of death. Even to-day the people of Cambay look back with horror and dismay to those ill-starred times when their fore-fathers were exposed to such horrible miseries.

A few days after the inroad of Shripat Rao, Bhagwant Rao, another Sardar of the Peshwa, led his band towards Cambay, declaring that his intention was simply to pass a few days at the Nawab's capital. Muftakhir Khan, deceived by these friendly protestations, received the Maratha with great cordiality and lodged him and his followers in large comfortable houses. Bhagwant Rao, after passing a few days at Cambay, wrote to Salam Jamaradar to march at the head of his army to that sea-port town and besiege it on all sides. The contents of the letter being revealed to Muftakhir Khan, he ordered the house in which Bhagwant Rao was staying to be closely surrounded by armed sentinels, and thus shut out all communication be-

tween the occupants and the out-siders. When the intelligence of Bhagwant Rao's confinement reached the ears of the Peshwa, he ordered his troops, stationed at Jambusar, Viramgam and Dhandhuka, for preservation of order and peace through those districts, to proceed to Cambay to the rescue of the Maratha General. Bhagwant Rao was soon liberated, without the contending factions arriving at any new settlement.

Bhagwant Rao again marched upon Cambay in 1754, and the Nawab after some hesitation agreeing to pay him rupees 10,000, he returned to his district. Muftakhir Khan then levied tribute from some of the petty States in Kathiawad and captured Gogha. He also seized Ahmedabad and held it for a short time. At last, in 1757, he relinquished all claims to Ahmedabad and Gogha and returned to Cambay. Soon after his arrival there, the troops clamoured for the arrears of their pay, but the Nawab having no funds to pay them off, could not meet with their demands and the discontented soldiery turning round against him, took him prisoner. The faithful minister, Vrajlal, ran to his master's rescue and appeasing the militia, delivered the Nawab from the grip of those enraged mercenaries. The ungrateful Muftakhir rewarded the devotion of his faithful Diwan by participating in a conspiracy to murder the man, who had but recently sacrificed all his wealth on the altar of loyalty. He also evaded payment of the annual tribute to the Peshwa and himself made preparations to proceed to Poona. The Peshwa's Deputy, Sadashiv Ramchandra, sent him an ultimatum that he should not leave Cambay until he had paid up the Peshwa's tribute, which had fallen into arrears. To carry out the threat thus held out to the Nawab, he marched with his army and besieged Cambay, but on Muftakhir's appeasing his wrath by the payment of 20,000 rupees, he raised the siege and retired to his station.

Muftakhir Khan then went to Surat, where he saw Mr. Spenser, the officer in charge of the English factory. He then proceeded by sea to Bombay, where he was received by the Governor, Mr. Borchour, with the honor due to his rank.

After passing a few days at Bombay, Muftakhir Khan went to Poona in 1759, where he was received near the gate of the city by Sadashiv Rao, the brother of the reigning Peshwa. He then escorted the visitor to the presence of Balaji Rao, who allotted to him a place in the Darbar next to his throne. The Moslem had learnt from bitter experience that of all things in the world, glittering gold pleased the Marathas the most, and he suc-

ceeded in winning the highest esteem of the Maratha government by making valuable *Nazaranas* to the Peshwa and his principal courtiers. After staying at Poona for nearly two months, he begged leave of the Peshwa to return to his capital, and, on the occasion of his departure, the Maratha sovereign gave him a richly caparisoned elephant and a superb dress of honor.

On his way home, Muftakhir Khan passed a few days at Bombay, during which he shewed the greatest regard for the British Court of Directors. Letters of friendship and esteem passed between Muftakhir Khan and the British authorities, of which those written by the Nawab were preserved by the Court as important State papers. Copies were ordered to be made of these letters and sent to the British Resident at Cambay to be filed on the record, while other native officers, directly or indirectly connected with Cambay, were also supplied with them as a mark of friendship existing between the English and the Nawab. Proceeding from Bombay to Surat, he at last returned to his capital. After his arrival there, he opened negotiations with Ganesh Apaji, the representative of the Peshwa, and through him obtained the removal of the Maratha agent from his court. To gain this object, he had to pay to the Marathas the sum of 84,000 rupees.

On the 7th January 1761, before day-break, was fought the ever-memorable battle of Panipat, in which the Marathas sustained a crushing defeat, attended with a loss of thousands of their brave men, at the hands of the Afghan leader, Ahmud Shah Abdali (Durani). The Mahomedans were flushed with victory. Orders were soon despatched from Delhi to the principal Mussalman officers stationed in Gujarat, to hunt out the Marathas from that province. Muftakhir Khan and the Nawab of Broach made a common cause against the Marathas, and, marching against them at the head of their combined troops, wrested the district of Jambusar from their hands. Sadashiv Ramchandra and Damaji Rao Gaekwad combined together to offer them resistance and eventually reconquering Jambusar, they laid waste the province of Cambay. Muftakhir Khan purchased peace from the invaders at a cost of half of his revenues, together with the payment of two years' tribute in advance. The friendly relations, thus restored, continued to be uninterrupted till the end of 1766. During that period however, the greater part of the subjects of Cambay, no longer able to bear 'the oppressor's wrong', left the capital and migrated to other districts and towns.

Once the crafty Muftakhir assembled to-gether all the Brahmans, residing at Cambay, at a lonely spot under the pretext of offering through them prayers to the Almighty to extend the duration of his life. In the evening he paid to each Brahman four annas and allowed him to go home. He continued this practice for six consecutive days, but on the seventh day when all the Brahmans had assembled to-gether, he ordered his men to surround them on all sides and make them prisoners in that arena. The tyrant then ordered his myrmidons to torture those innocent citizens, until they shewed the spot where their property and other valuables had been deposited. The sight of these barbarians ruthlessly carrying out the orders of their chief was simply painful. Red hot iron nails were driven into the palms of those who hesitated to show the place where their wealth was concealed. This cruel process lasted for two days and nights, during which time the heartless Nawab reaped a rich harvest of 200,000 rupees from his innocent victims. Driven to despair, many of these Brahmans and other wealthy merchants sought refuge with the British officers at Surat. Muftakhir Khan was advised to adopt this wicked plan by his minister, Aga Rashid Beg. He also misappropriated a great portion of this ill-gotten wealth. Muftakhir Khan, suspecting dishonesty on his part, first removed him from his office and then confining him in a dungeon, ordered him to be assassinated.

In 1766 bands of Kathi and Koli marauders carried on their raids in the province of Cambay, and the Nawab delivered his subjects from their oppression by paying them 4,000 rupees. He was till then remitting half the revenues of the State to the Marathas, under the terms of a former agreement, but in 1768 their share was reduced to $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the yearly income, and they seemed perfectly satisfied with that amount also. In 1771, the English conquered the fortress of Talaja from the hands of the wild Koli tribes, and sold it to Muftakhir Khan for 75,000 Rs. Two years after, the Nawab sold it for the same amount to the ruling chief of Bhavnagar.

Naturally of a wicked type, Muftakhir Khan's cruelty and villainy reached their highest stage of development in 1772, when he ordered his own son, Khan Jahan, a youth aged 22 years, to be brutally massacred. The perpetration of this most unnatural and wicked act was entrusted to one Mirza Teman, who, on the successful completion of that heinous offence, was raised to the position of the prime minister of the State.

Teman by degrees became so powerful and influential a personage that he began abusing his authority with perfect impunity. During his tenure he surpassed even his master in tyrannizing over the innocent ryots of Cambay. He wielded the powers of the Diwan for ten years continuously from 1772 to 1782 when he was publicly disgraced and dismissed.

It would not be the language of exaggeration to say that both Muftakhir Khan and Mirza Teman were born in this world simply to indulge in systematic oppression over the subjects of Cambay. The whole province suffered to such an extent at their hands that several enterprising merchants left Cambay, and settled in other places of greater security, while those who remained there were reduced to the verge of penury and starvation. The mercantile class, with the exception of a few English traders, who had settled in that province, was left without capital, and the State, losing its commercial greatness, also suffered a corresponding diminution in its yearly income. The strength of the army was also reduced to 2000 Sindhi and 500 Arab mercenaries.

In 1774 Raghunath Rao marched upon Cambay, when Muftakhir Khan, unable to raise a large army sufficient to offer him a strong resistance, was turned out of the capital, which fell into the hands of the invaders. The Nawab then sought the assistance of the English troops, but the officer in command, sagaciously avoiding any engagement with the Marathas, who had then mustered strong, promised his intervention in bringing about an amicable settlement between the contending factions. Sir Charles Mallet, the British Resident at the Court of Poona, opened negotiations with the Maratha government, on behalf of the Nawab, and agreeing to pay them a war indemnity, gained back the province of Cambay for the deposed Nawab.

In 1779, the British Government, introducing several important changes in the line of policy hitherto adopted and followed by them in this country, set aside for a time their alliance with the Peshwa and allowed Fatteh Sinh Rao to freely exercise his authority in Gujarat on behalf of his brother, Sayaji Rao Gaekwad. The Kathi free-booters extended their raids as far as the river Sabarmati in Gujarat, and Fatteh Sinh Rao solicited the help of Muftakhir Khan in suppressing those lawless tribes. In return for this help, the Gaekwad granted to the Nawab six villages in the districts of Matar and Petlad, yielding an yearly income of 9000 Rs. The Kathis, when they learnt of this coalition, carried on their pillage in.

villages under Cambay, but Muftakhir Khan, to prevent them from advancing beyond the Sabarmati, placed there a small detachment of troops, consisting of 500 cavalry and 500 infantry. The Gaekwad bore the expense of maintaining this extra force by granting the Nawab some additional estate.

After the removal of Mirza Teman from the premiership, the sole unfettered powers were centred in the hands of Kutubbi Khanum, the fair and beauteous wife of Muftakhir Khan. She was the grand-daughter of Momin Khan Dehlami, who held the Diwanate of Gujarat till 1728, and was the sister of Budil Jamal and the mother of the unfortunate prince, Khan Jahan, who, as narrated above, was murdered by his cruel father. She also proved a very wicked and oppressive regent, but her influence did not last long (1782.)

Muftakhir Khan had himself procured the death of his only son and heir, Khan Jahan, and being left without issue, he now thought of resorting to adoption. Accordingly in the month of October 1782, seeing that death was approaching nigh, he adopted Mahmud Kuli, the son of his brother-in-law, Nazam Khan, whom he had murdered in 1748 before usurping the throne of Cambay. The mother of Mahmud Kuli, Nur Jahan *alias* Khanum Begam, was the daughter of Muftakhir Khan's late father, Mirza Jafar *alias* Momin Khan I., by one of his left-handed wives. Nur Jahan had no other son besides Mahmud Kuli, but her husband Nazam Khan was on terms of intimacy with the wife of a certain Killedar, who also bore him a son. Overcome with jealousy and fear, Nur Jahan had removed her son from Cambay and had brought him up in a place of greater safety. The boy was during childhood called by his pet name 'Miya Manu,' but subsequently it was submerged in the more generally known name of Mahmud Kuli Khan. Muftakhir Khan had also contracted a left-handed marriage with a fair Mussalman girl, who had given birth to a daughter named Jogni Khanum. She was married to Mahmud Kuli, who, besides being his nephew, had thus become his son-in-law also.

Muftakhir Khan, after a reign of 35 years, died on 22nd January 1783. His rule was signalised by acts of unsurpassed cruelty and oppression; though in fairness it must be admitted that he shewed considerable skill, tact and bravery in thwarting the aggressive measures of the Marathas, sometimes by resorting to unscrupulous means, sometimes by boldly offering them strong resistance. It is said that he never paid the Peshwa the full

amount of tribute agreed upon between them. The town and province of Cambay underwent great deterioration under him, owing to his tyranny and flagrant injustice.

After Muftakhir Khan's death, his adopted son, Mahmud Kuli Khan, ascended the *gadi*. His accession was, however, disputed by one Mirza Shani, reputed to be the son of the late Nawab by one of his slave girls, who issued proclamations in his own name as the Nawab of Cambay. He was not able to attract any notice, and Mahmud Kuli did not meet with a strong opposition in turning him out of Cambay, and assuming undisputed mastery over the whole province.

No event worth recording is said to have occurred during Mahmud Kuli's reign, save the flight of one Tapidas, a criminal, who had committed an offence within the jurisdiction of Baroda. The Bania took refuge at Cambay, and when asked by the Gaekwad to quietly surrender the prisoner, Mahmud Kuli Khan not only harboured the offender but actively assisted him in effecting his escape. Fatteh Singh Rao Gaekwad marched at the head of his troops upon Cambay and exacted a penalty of 15000 Rs from the Nawab, for his assisting Tapidas in eluding the clutches of the law.

Mahmud Kuli Khan reigned for six years and died in 1790. He had three sons Fatteh Ali Khan, Bande Ali Khan and Yavar Ali Khan, of whom the eldest, Fatteh Ali Khan, succeeded him to the *gadi*, assuming the name of Momin Khan III. During his reign the management of Gujarat was entrusted to Manaji Rao by his brother, Sayaji Rao Gaekwad. Manaji asked back from the Nawab the six villages that were granted by the Gaekwad to one of his predecessors in 1779, in consideration of his undertaking to stem the further progress of the Kathi marauders, who were overrunning the districts lying to the east of the river Sabarmati. Fatteh Ali Khan strongly resisted the demand and it was then settled that the villages might be retained by the Nawab on his agreeing to pay to the Gaekwad Rs. 10,000 every year, and oppose the bands of the Kathi free-booters, who were making a rapid progress towards the east of the Sabarmati.

Fatteh Ali Khan sent a rich *Nazarana* to Emperor Shah Alam II, then reigning at Delhi, who, in return, conferred on him the proud titles of 'Nizam-ud-Daula Mumtaz-ul-Mulk, Momin Khan Bahadur Dilawar Jung,' Member of the 'Eminent order of the 6000 nobles at the Imperial Court,' and 'the Nawab of Cambay.'

During his reign the Marathas repeatedly invaded Cambay for collecting their dues. In 1792 the Gaekwad resumed the six villages granted to the late Nawab in 1779, in consideration of his services in resisting the onward progress of the Kathi depredators. In 1799 the Peshwa's Agent, Atmaram Bhau, marched upon Cambay and extorted from the Nawab 30,000 rupees. Next year (1800), Babaji Apaji, the Gaekwad's Diwan, while proceeding to Kathiawad for collecting tributes, invaded the fort of Cambay and demanded 50,000 Rs. on account of the arrears of tribute due to the Gaekwad. The revenues of the State had then fallen down considerably and the poor subjects, saddled with the burthen of these further exactions, were reduced to a very miserable condition. The commerce which had been seriously crippled of late had revived under the fostering care of a few English merchants, to whose advice the Nawab began to lend a willing ear. This was the beginning of that close connection between the English Government and the ruling Nawabs, which forms a marked feature of the future history of this State. Under the terms of the treaty of Bassein, signed on 31st December 1802, between the English and the Peshwa, all the rights held by the latter of collecting *chouth* (quarter of the revenues) and other dues from Cambay were transferred to the British Government.

When Poona was wrested by the English from the hands of the last Peshwa, Baji Rao, in 1818, and the mighty edifice of the Maratha rule was thus levelled to the ground, all the territories, then owing allegiance to it were transferred to the British Crown, coupled with the rights held by the Peshwa to collect tribute from the feudatory states. The appointment of a separate officer, as Resident of Cambay, was from that date abolished and the State placed under the management of a new officer, who was officially styled the Collector of Kaira and Political Agent for the Native State of Cambay.

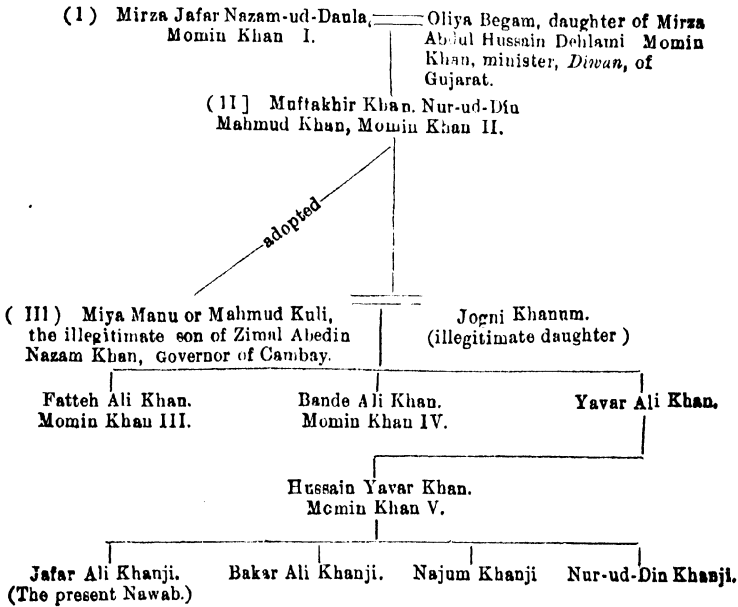
Nawab Fattah Ali Khan *alias* Momin Khan III. breathed his last on 28th October 1823, and as he had no issue, was succeeded by his brother, Bande Ali Khan, under the hereditary title of Momin Khan IV. He died in 1841 without issue, and was succeeded by Hussain Yavar Khan, the son of his younger brother, Yavar Ali Khan. He continued to hold the title of 'Nizam-ud-Daula Muntaz-ul-Mulk Momin Khan Dilawar Jung Bahadur' which had been conferred on one of his predecessors by the Emperor of Delhi. In 1862 the Nawab received, from the British Government, a *Sanad*, authorising him and his successors to adopt an heir to the *gadi*,

without the payment of any *Nazarana* to the Paramount Power. He proved a very generous, charitable and affable ruler. He undertook several works of public usefulness and improved the condition of the ryots by establishing civil, criminal and revenue departments in the State. After a beneficent reign, extending over 39 years, he died in 1880, leaving behind him four sons, Jafar Ali Khanji, Bakar Ali Khanji, Najum-Khanji and Nur-ud-Din Mahmud Khanji. The eldest of these, Jafar Ali Khanji, ascended the *gadi*. During the life time of the late Nawab every official document, directed to him by the British Agent, had borne at its top his full title in Persian, but now in all communications addressed to the present Nawab he is styled as 'His Highness Jafar Ali Khanji, Nawab of Cambay.' Up to the end of 1890, this State continued to be under the supervision of the Collector of Kaira and Political Agent for Cambay; but an unfortunate accident occurred which necessitated a material change in the *personnel* of the administration. The poor ryots, unable to pay the increased rate of assessment, fixed by the late Diwan, Mr. Shamrao Narayan Laud, flocked in large numbers to the Nawab's palace to get their grievances redressed. Jafar Ali Khanji, fearing that they were then too much excited, repeatedly asked them to disperse, but when he saw that his orders were disobeyed and the State police were unable to maintain order, he sent a despatch to Mr. Cooke, the then Collector of Kaira, to hasten to his relief with a band of English contingent. After the arrival of the military the mob was again asked to disperse, but the foolish peasantry, mistaking clemency for cowardice, remained firm, when at last they were fired upon and a few of their number killed on the spot. The Paramount Power, concluding that the Nawab was thoroughly incompetent to carry on the government placed Cambay under their protection and appointed a British officer of well known ability to carry on the administration of the State. Major Kennedy was selected to fill that important place, and the services of an experienced Deputy Collector, Mr. Keshavlal Hiralal, then serving in Thana, were lent to that State as Diwan or native head of the administration. Under these able and experienced officers the State has improved considerably and the germs of mis-government having been rooted out, the subjects are happy and contented. The British Government having thus accomplished its noble mission, the Nawab, Jafar Ali Khanji, was reinstated on the *gadi* in 1894. The appointment of the Diwan, however, still rests with the Bombay Government, who have

approved of the nomination of Mr. Madhavram Harnarayan to that important post.

Cambay being a first class State, its ruler enjoys full civil and criminal powers, and is entitled to a salute of 11 guns.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Cambay, Kaira District ; Bombay Presidency.



CHAMBA.

Area.—3,126 sq. miles. Population.—124,032.

Revenue.—3,50,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the west and north-west, by the territories of Kashmir ; on the east and north-east, by the British districts of Lahul and Ladak ; and on the south and south-east, by the districts of Kangra and Gurdaspur.

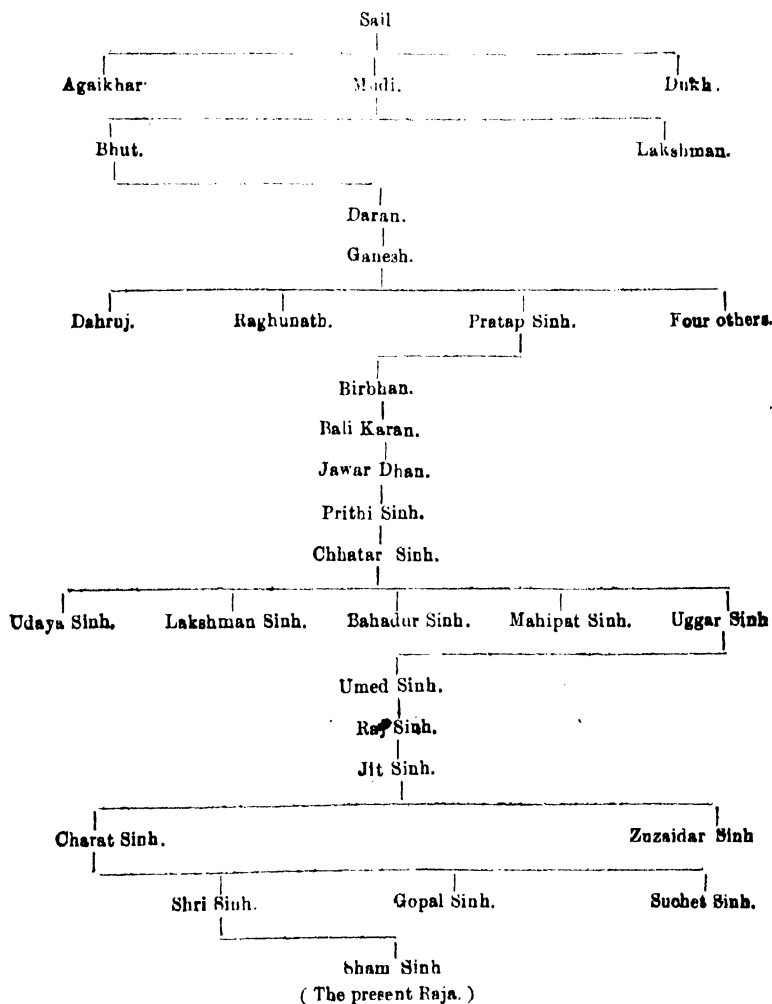
No authentic history has come to light up to the reign of Raja Shri Sinh. In the year 1846, when the State passed into the hands of the British Government, some portion of its territory was assigned to Maharaja Gulab Sinh of Kashmir, but in the very next year it was again transferred to the British Government. In the same year a *sanad* was granted to the Raja, Shri Sinh, a Rajput, which purported to vest the complete management in him and his heirs for ever ; the Raja on his part undertook to pay a tribute of ten thousand rupees, and to provide men and means in times of war. During the reign of Raja Shri Sinh, in 1854, the town of Dalhousie being ceded to the British Government, two thousand rupees, out of his fixed tribute, were remitted ; again in 1867 some land was freely given for the cantonments at Bakloh and Balun, and consequently the tribute was reduced by 5,000 rupees. At present, the sum, which the State has to pay as tribute to the British Government, is 5,000 rupees.

At the request of the Raja, an English officer was appointed to carry out certain reforms in the State in the year 1862. Raja Shri Sinh died in 1870, without leaving any issue ; thereupon his youngest brother, Suchet Sinh, claimed to succeed him, but the Government superseded him in favour of his half-brother, Gopal Sinh. His incapacity led to his abdication in favour of his son, Prince Sham Sinh, who continues to occupy the throne to the present moment.

Owing to the infancy of Sham Sinh, at the time of his succession, a Council of Regency was nominated to carry on the administration, composed of one English and two native members. Under the administration by the Council, the revenue of the State rose by rapid strides. But when the Raja reached the state of manhood, he was invested with absolute powers. He attended the Darbar held at Delhi, by Lord Lytton, on the occasion of the assumption of the title of Empress of India by Her Gracious Majesty.

The Raja of Chamba has judicial powers of life and death and receives a salute of 11 guns.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Chamba, Punjab; Northern India.

CHARKHARI.

Area.—880 sq. miles. Population.—143,261.

Revenue.—6,00,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the Surila State; on the south-east, by the State of Alipura; on the south-west, by the territory of Pahari; and on the south, by the State of Gaurihar.

The rulers of Charkhari are Rajputs of the Bundela race. It was founded by Bije Bahadur *alias* Khuman Sinh, the grandson of the founder of Ajaigarh. When Bundelkhand was attacked by Ali Bahadur, he espoused his cause, in return for which he received from him the territory of Charkhari. He was the first of the Bundela princes to recognize the supremacy of the British Government and to receive the *sanads* granted in 1804 and 1811. These *sanads* silenced for ever all the disputes as to his claims on Charkhari and several other villages. He died in 1829, and was succeeded by his grand-son, Ratan Sinh. His activity and energy, exerted on behalf of the British Government in 1857, procured for him a *sanad* of adoption, the cession of a *jagir* yielding 20,000 rupees a year, a dress of honour and a salute of 11 guns from generation to generation. Ratan Sinh died in 1860, leaving Jaya Sinh Deo, as the heir-apparent.

Owing to his minority, the Government appointed an officer to carry on the administration.

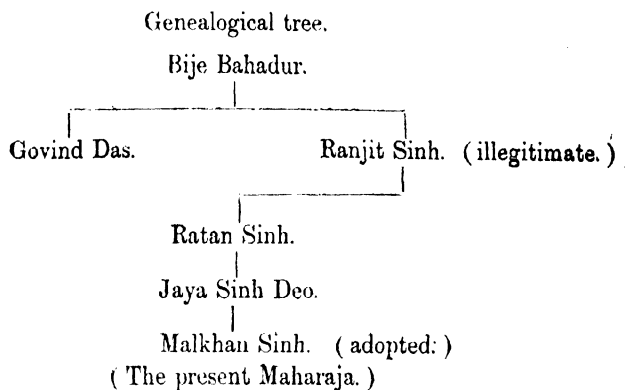
In 1866, during the administration of this officer, the State agreed to transfer to the British Government the *paragnas* of Fatepur, Hirapur and Meradeo in exchange of certain other villages of the value of 29,525 rupees, together with a compensation of a like amount, for the past losses of the State in connection with the revenue from the Meradeo district.

He was installed on the *gadi* on his attaining majority in 1874. In 1877 at the Imperial Assemblage of Delhi, he was honoured with the title of 'Sipahdar-ul-Mulk.'

Maharaja Jaya Sinh Deo died in 1880, without leaving any male issue, and his widow was called upon to adopt from amongst her collaterals. On payment of the customary relief, the succession of Malkhan Sinh was recognized by the Government. As he was but a child of nine, the administration of the State was carried on by the Raja's natural father, Jujhar Sinh, under the superintendence of the Political Agent, after the death of the Dowager queen in 1881. This arrangement lasted till the

attainment of the age of majority by the Raja in 1892, when he was entrusted with the government of the State, certain criminal powers being reserved.

The State is entitled to a salute of 11 guns.



Residence.—Charkhari, Bundelkhand ; Central India.

CHHATARPUR.

Area.—1,240 sq. miles. Population.—177,187.

Revenue.—3,00,000 rupees.

The State of Chhatarpur is bounded on the north, by the district of Hamirpur; on the east, by the State of Ajaigarh; on the south, by the territory of Urehha; and on the west, by the river Betwa.

Kunwar Suni Sah seized a large tract in the neighbourhood of his *Raj*, wherein he was maintained by the British arms, though he was simply a servant of Raja Hindupat of Panna. At the time of the British occupation, his position in Bundelkhand had grown so strong that the Government resolved to conciliate him, by granting a *sanad*, confirming him in his possessions, in 1806. His conquests, after Ali Bahadur's death, were seized by the Government, but the tribute payable to the State of Panna by Suni Sah was remitted. Later on, it was considered expedient to restore to him his full possessions, which was not however done, till 1808, when Mhow was assigned to Kunwar Suni Sah and Chhatarpur to his son, Pratap Sinh.

Suni Sah distributed his territories amongst his sons in 1812. A later distribution, curtailing both the share and the influence of Pratap Sinh was disapproved by the Government, on the ground that it was unjust to the eldest son and opposed to the policy of maintaining the integrity of the Bundelkhand States. The Government further gave him to understand that no hereditary descent of the younger sons' shares in his family will be recognized, their interest being limited to their lives; and the Agent was directed to work on the basis of the first distribution, in coming to any arrangement with Pratap Sinh, on the death of his father. In 1815, when Suni Sah died, the above decision of the Government was carried out by issuing *sanads* to five brothers on the footing of the above resolution, and they were required to execute engagements on their behalf. The shares allotted to them were slightly modified for mutual accommodation. The fort of Deora, which commanded the hill passes and which was fortified by Pratap Sinh, at considerable expense, fell to the share of his brother, Bakhat Sinh. Its possession was of great value to Pratap Sinh in keeping the marauders in check, which he was always under an obligation to do. It was consequently arranged between the brothers that Deora and Kariani were to be exchanged for Rajgarh and Taleha.

Again to meet the inconvenience caused to Prithi Sinh by not having a good town to reside in, in the territory allotted to him, Rajgarh was made over to Prithi Sinh by Bakhat Sinh, and he received six villages of equal value in exchange.

These *jagirs* reverted to the Chhatarpur State on the deaths of Himat Sinh, Prithi Sinh and Hindupat. Bakhat Sinh made over his *jagir* during his life, owing to his inability to manage it, and received an annual stipend of 2,250 rupees. In the *jagirs* which reverted to the parent state, there were three villages granted to the Dichhit family which Pratap Sinh wanted to resume. But the Government interfered and prevented him from carrying out his desire by ruling that the title of the family to the *jagir* was based on old grants, which must be respected; on the other hand, the sovereign rights of the State over the family were held to be tenable and the family was declared to hold the status of a guaranteed subordinate to the State. The meaning of the resolution was that the family would not rank with other Bundelkhand chiefs nor would it be entitled to a *sanad* from the Government; on the other hand, this *jagirdar* had to refer questions of internal administration for approval to the State.

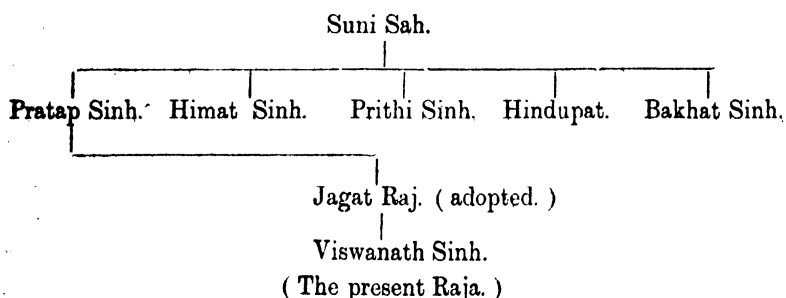
Raja Pratap Sinh was honoured with the title of "Raja Bahadur" in 1827. As he was growing old and had no progeny, he desired to adopt Jagat Raj, his nephew, in supersession of his other nephews, who had opposed his rights of escheat, and were subsequently induced, under British guarantee, to accept annuities on condition of residing out of the Chhatarpur territory. On reference to the other chiefs of Bundelkhand, as to the propriety of Pratap Sinh's proposal, the question was unanimously solved in favour of Pratap's choice. During the course of the settlement of the question, Pratap Sinh died in 1854. The Court of Directors, though they disapproved of the policy of referring and deciding such questions by the means then adopted by the India Government, held, on the construction of the *sanads* of 1806 and 1817, that the other nephews had no right to the succession, that the State was clearly an escheat and that Jagat Raj's claims, based on his adoption by Pratap Sinh, could not be recognized. In consideration, however, of the fidelity of the family to the British Government it was resolved to grant the State to Jagat Raj by a new *sanad*, limiting the succession to him and to his male descendants. The State was at first placed under the Regency of the widow of Pratap, but in 1863, in consequence of her having harboured the mutineers, it was placed in the charge

of a British Political Officer. The young Prince was entrusted with independent management of his State in 1867, but at the end of the very year his promising career was cut short. He left an infant male child, named Viswanath Sinh, behind him, whose succession was duly recognized by the Government. He is the present Raja of Chhatarpur.

For the next twenty years, during the Chief's minority, the State was managed under British superintendence. At the end of this period, the Chief was invested with all the powers of an independent ruler.

The Raja of Chhatarpur has been granted the right of adoption and enjoys a salute of 11 guns.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Chhatarpur, Bundelkhand ; Central India.



FARIDKOT.

Area.—643 sq. miles. Population.—115,040.

Revenue.— 3,00,000 rupees.

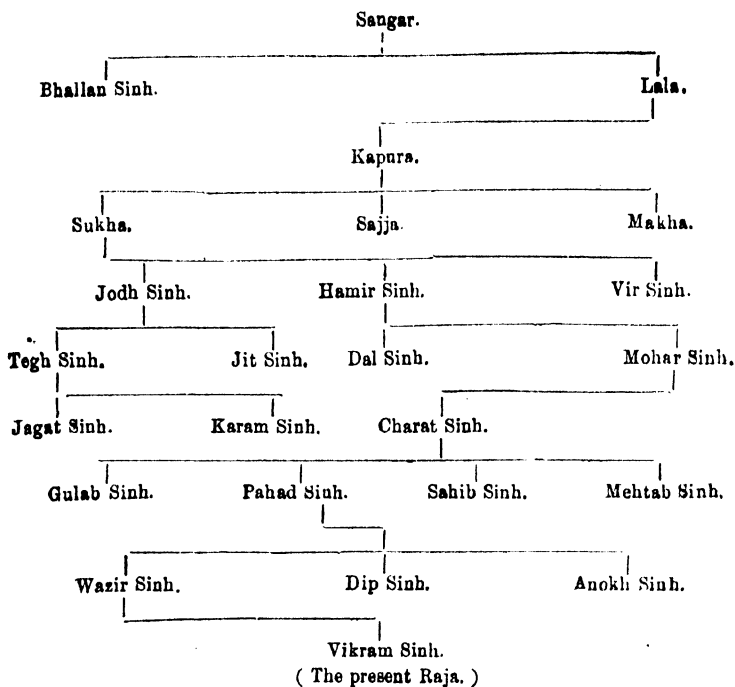
The founder of the State was one Bhallan Sinh, a Jat of the Barar race, who acquired immense influence at the Court of Akbar, the Mughal Emperor. His nephew erected a fortress at Kot-Kapura and began to govern at the place on his own behalf. In the beginning of the nineteenth century, we find the district of Kot-Kapura reduced to subjection by Mukam Chand, the Diwan of Ranjit Sinh of Lahore. The Raja handed over the possession of Faridkot to its original rulers with great reluctance, when compelled in 1808-9 by the British Government to transfer his Cis-Sutlej conquests to the chiefs, who were thus deprived of their possessions. It then yielded but a small revenue. In 1845, at the time of the first Sikh War, its ruler, Pahad Sinh, stood by the British Government, and his loyalty was rewarded by the cession of half the territory acquired from the king of Nabha, together with the dignity of a kingship. Pahad Sinh was succeeded by his son, Wazir Sinh, who maintained the traditional loyalty to the British Government, and did some good service; his adherence to the British Government was further put to the test at the time of the Mutiny of 1857, when he signified his zeal by the capture of several mutineers and the destruction of the fastness of Shamdas, a prominent actor in that melodrama. The British Government recognized his fidelity by conferring on him the title of '*Barar Vansh Raja Bahadur*' and entitling him to a salute of 11 guns. In 1862 he was granted the *sanad* of adoption.

In the month of April 1874 Wazir Sinh died in his palace. His son, Vikram Sinh, was proclaimed his successor. He is the present ruler of Faridkot. He was born in 1842. He attended the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi in 1877. In the Afghan War of 1878 the Raja assisted the British Government by troops, which were employed in the Kuram Valley.

The Raja of Faridkot has been granted the right of adoption and is entitled to a salute of 11 guns.



Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Faridkot, Punjab ; Northern India.



GONDAL

Area.—1,023 sq. miles. Population.—161,036.

Revenue.—12,00,000 rupees.

Gondal is bounded on the north by Nawanagar, Rajkot and the Taluka of Kotda-Sangani; on the east, by the Talukas held by the Kathis; on the south, by Jetpur and other minor Talukas; and on the west, by the native State of Nawanagar.

The Thakore Saheb of Gondal is a Jadeja Rajput and a *Bhayad* of the rulers of Rajkot. On the death of Vibhaji, the founder of the Rajkot dynasty, his son, Meheramanji, succeeded to the *gadi*. He had two sons Sahebji and Kumbhoji, of whom the elder, Sahebji, succeeded, on his father's death, which took place about 1650, to the throne of Rajkot (then Sardhar), while the younger, Kumbhoji, repaired to his maternal home at Gondal.

In 1360 Juma Khan of the Tughlak dynasty, known in Indian history by the name of Mahmud Tughlak, was taken ill, and he is said to have stayed at Gondal for a pretty long period. On his recovery he crossed the *Run* of Kutch and went into the interior of the province and thence proceeded to Sindhi. After that Gondal seems to have remained for some time desolate and uninhabited. When the Mussalmans of the Ghor dynasty held their sway at Junagarh, their chief, Hamir Khan Ghori, appears to have given shelter to a Sultan at Gondal, under whom it is said to have regained its lost prosperity. Again, according to the Mahomedan chronicles, Gondal was a mere *paragna* under Sorath; while the celebrated author of the *Ain-i-Akbari* says that it was originally held by the Rajputs of the Vaghela tribe.

As mentioned above, Kumbhoji became the founder of the chieftdom of Gondal. Vibhaji, the founder of the Sardhar (now Rajkot) *gadi*, died in 1635, and was succeeded by Meheramanji. He had two sons, Sahebji and Kumbhoji, by different wives. The mother of Kumbhoji was the daughter of the Chudasama Girasia of Gondal. He had received during his father's life-time the grant of the villages of Ardoi and Rib. The two brothers were not on good terms, so after the death of their father, Meheramanji (1650), Kumbhoji went to his maternal home and drove away his maternal uncle from Gondal. He left behind him two sons, Sagramji and Sangoji, of whom the elder, Sagramji, inherited the patrimony of Gondal, while Sangoji founded the *gadi* of Kotda-Sangani. Sagramji made con-

siderable additions to the territory he had inherited and selected Gondal for his seat of government. Gondal was a very small village, but from the time that Kumbhoji had taken up his residence there, he had endeavoured to make his capital a flourishing and well-looking town.

Sagramji was succeeded by his son, Haloji. He was the father of the celebrated Kumbhoji II. He conquered from the Desai holders some portion of the Bhayavadar district. After his death, his son, Kumbhoji II., became the lord of Gondal. He turned out to be such an able, efficient and courageous ruler that the whole of Kathiawad trembled at his name. He forcibly took possession of the tenth part of the 700 villages, owning allegiance to the Thakore of Sardhar, who represented the main stock of his family. He also appropriated to himself some villages under the Junagarh and other neighbouring states, and in course of time became a ruler of no mean repute. If the *gadi* of Gondal had not been graced by this illustrious prince, it is not too much to say that Gondal would not have risen to that pre-eminence which it holds to-day among the Native States of Kathiawad. He had for his contemporaries such eminent personages as Amarji, Diwan of Junagarh, Meheraman, Khawas of Nawanagar, Vakhatsinhji, Thakore of Bhavnagar and Fattah Mahmud Jamadar of Kutch, but it is no exaggeration to say that Kumbhoji, as a man of courage and resource, stood above them all.

In 1727, Pratapsinhji, the Raj of Halwad, procured the accession of Jam Tamachi to the throne of Nawanagar by the assistance of Sher Buland Khan, the Mughal Suba of Gujarat, and Babi Salabat Mahmud Khan. The Jam in return gave to the Babi the villages of Chharakhdi, Trakuda and Daiya. The Babi subsequently distributed them among his sons, Sher Jaman Khan and Dilavar Khan, who, in their turn, sold them to Kumbhoji II. of Gondal. When the Arab mercenaries at Junagarh rose into an open revolt for the recovery of their pay, which had fallen into arrears, and confined the Nawab within the walls of the Uparkot, the district of Dhoraji was written over to Kumbhoji by Shaik Mahmud Zabadichan on behalf of the captive Nawab and he obtained from him a subsidy, from which the Arabs were paid off and satisfied. Again when Mohobat Khan ascended the *masnud* at Junagarh in 1768 his aunt, Sahiba Sultan Bibi, who was married to Babi Samat Khan of Bantwa, rose against the authority of the Nawab and obtaining the assistance of an Arab Jamadar, named Suleman, and other officers of the State, she succeeded in confining the unfortunate Nawab in the Uparkot, while she issued a proclamation in the name of her

son, Muzaffar Khan, as the future Nawab of Junagarh. It was at this very juncture that Kamal-ud-Din Khan *alias* Jawan Mard Khan, the Nawab of Radhanpur invaded Junagarh at the head of a large army. The hill-fort proving impregnable, the Nawab raised the siege and lay encamped at a short distance of two miles from the metropolis. At such a critical moment Kumbhoji II. took compassion on the unfortunate Mohobat Khan, and at once proceeding to Junagarh, prevailed upon the Radhanpur Nawab to quietly return to his capital. He also negotiated with Sahiba Sultan Bibi and obtaining for her son, Muzaffar, the grant of Ranpur, he re-instated the deposed Nawab on the throne of Junagarh. The Nawab was then reduced to a penniless condition and Kumbhoji lent him 35,000 *Jamshahi* Koris and in consideration got the *paragna* of Upleta, yielding an annual income of 5,000 Koris, written over to him.

Kumbhoji thus obtained the districts of Dhoraji and Upleta from the Nawab of Junagarh, though he always feared that his shrewd minister, Amarji, would not allow him a quiet enjoyment of these acquisitions for a long time. In 1771, the Thakore impressed upon the mind of the Nawab the necessity of removing Amarji from his place, urging that his influence was waxing day by day, and that time would come when he would murder the effete Nawab and usurp the throne of Junagarh. This threat had its desired effect, for he at once expressed his willingness to get rid of the ambitious Diwan. Kumbhoji, thereupon, obtaining the assistance of a detachment of the Maratha troops, that had encamped in the neighbourhood, fell all of a sudden on the camp of Amarji Diwan near Malasamdi. Kumbhoji, however, despairing of success, left the Maratha army and fled away with his followers to his own territory.

Kumbhoji was endowed with a brave heart and a resourceful brain ; so he thought that as long as Amarji Diwan was alive and held the helm of the Junagarh administration, he would not for long be allowed to enjoy the districts of Dhoraji and Upleta. He, therefore, resolved within himself to work assiduously for the destruction of his rival. When Hamad Khan succeeded Mohobat Khan to the throne of Junagarh in 1795, the astute Rajput availed himself of every opportunity to poison the ears of the new Nawab against his faithful minister. Kumbhoji once obtained the assistance of Meheraman Khawas of Nawanagar and Sultanji, the Rana of Porbandar, and, with a view to destroy the power and influence of Amarji, they with their combined forces marched upon Kutiana and plundered

several villages in that district (1782). Amarji boldly marched against them, but was defeated and compelled to return to Junagarh. They stormed the hill-fort of Devada and plundered the village. Meheraman, SultANJI and Kumbhoji returned to their respective territories of Nawagar, Porbandar and Gondal. Amarji, to retaliate the many injuries done him, was making preparations for the destruction of Kumbhoji, when in the meantime he was compelled to accompany the Nawab in his expedition against Jhalawad and Gohilwad (1784). The Nawab under the pretext of ill health, wended his way back to Junagarh, though in reality he did not choose to stay long in the company of his ill-fated Diwan. On the way he was met by Kumbhoji, who with great importunity requested Hamad Khan to accept of his hospitality if only for a single night, and brought him over to Gondal. The wily Thakore accorded his guest such a princely reception, and so strongly worked upon the weak Nawab that he at last consented to get rid of Amarji at any risk and by any means. The Thakore, to secure the confidence and co-operation of the Nawab's personal servants, pleased them with rich presents, and even went to the length of promising the Nawab a gift of 3 *lakhs* of Koris, on his obtaining the intelligence of Amarji's murder. When Amarji arrived at Junagarh during the *Holi* holidays, the Nawab's mother, in pursuance of a preconcerted plan, invited the Diwan to the palace to have a look at certain ornaments. When the all confiding Diwan, in response to that invitation, was going up the palace, he was surprised on the staircase, and was soon cut to pieces. This nefarious crime was perpetrated on 6th March 1784.

After the death of Amarji, the ungrateful Nawab expelled his brothers and sons from Junagarh. Kumbhoji could at once perceive that internal dissensions and disorder at the court of Junagarh, would materially weaken its power and influence abroad, while, on the contrary, that would add considerably to his own strength; and for that reason he invited the survivors of Amarji's family to his court, and promised them high and influential places in the State. The Nawab, however, could ill-afford to lose the services of such trusty counsellors, and within a short time he called them back to Junagarh.

In 1788, the Rana of Porbandar invaded the sea-port town of Veraval and conquered it, but the Nawab, obtaining the assistance of Kumbhoji's men, besieged it and reconquered it from the hands of the captors. The Nawab in recognition of this signal service granted to Kumbhoji a here-

ditary *sanad* in respect of Gondal, Jetalsar, Mali, Majethi, Lath and Bhimora. Kumbhoji had lent to the Nawab in 1784 the sum of 3 lakhs of Koris, and as the Moslem was unable to repay them in kind, he, in lieu of them, granted to the Thakore the districts of Sarsai and Champarda.

Kumbhoji once more persuaded the Nawab to dismiss the relatives of the late Diwan, Amarji, who were re-employed in Junagarh service, and the Nawab accordingly, in 1793, ordered their houses and property to be confiscated and placed them all in heavy chains.

When the Jadejas of Halar, espousing the cause of Jasaji of Nawagar, flew into an open rebellion to liberate the poor Jam from the shackles of his ambitious Diwan, Meheraman Khawas, in 1794, Dajibhai, the prince of Gondal, Meheramanji of Rajkot, Modji of Dhrol and Ranmalji of Khirsara took a leading part in that upheaval.

Kumbhoji had only one son, Sagramji, who had died during his lifetime, leaving behind two sons, Muluji and Devoji; of these, Muluji succeeded his grand father, Kumbhoji II, after his death.

Muluji had two sons, Haloji and Dajibhai, and the elder, Haloji, ascended the *gadi* after the death of Muluji, while Dajibhai received a rich appanage. Haloji, however, died after a short reign of one year, and as he had no issue, the vacant cushion was occupied by his brother, Dajibhai. He also expired in 1800 without issue; so his uncle, Devoji, succeeded him. In 1803, when Raghunathji, the Diwan of Junagarh, marched into Jhalawad to levy tribute, Devoji accompanied him in that expedition. When Colonel Walker arrived in Kathiawad in 1807, to permanently fix the amounts of tribute to be annually paid by the different chiefs of the province, the tribute to be paid by Gondal was also settled for ever. The districts, which had been acquired by Kumbhoji II, but which had become desolate owing to the disorder that prevailed after his death, were repopulated and restored to their old prosperity during the reign of Devoji.

Devoji died in 1812, leaving behind him four sons, Nathoji, Kanoji, Chandrasinhji and Bhanobhai. The eldest prince, Nathoji, succeeded to the throne, while *giras* were conferred upon the other brothers. Nathoji reigned for two years, and died in 1814. As he died childless the succession fell to his brother, Kanoji. He too dying childless in 1821, Chandrasinhji next ascended the *gadi*.

During his reign the Junagarh militia began to plunder and lay waste the adjacent territory, and especially made a dreadful havoc in the district of Dhoraji. They carried their predatory warfare to such an extent that the Thakore was compelled, in 1824, to appeal to the Political Agent to protect him from his foes. A small party of troops was at once despatched to Junagarh, under Captain Blaine, to put a stop to these plunders, and to obtain from the Nawab some compensation for the damage done by his men to the Gondal State. The Nawab was not only forced to restore to the Thakore all the booty that his troops had obtained, but, in addition, he had to pay as a fine to the British Government the sum of 6,85,000 *Jamshahi* Koris.

In 1841, Chandrasinhji breathed his last, leaving behind him no issue, and the *gadi* was next occupied by his younger brother, Bhanobhai. He also after reigning for ten years died in 1851, and was succeeded by his son, Sagramji II.

Sagramji, after a reign extending over nineteen years, died in 1870, and was succeeded by Bhagwantsinhji, the present Thakore Saheb. He was a minor at the time of his father's death, and the administration of affairs was entrusted by the British Government to an English officer, with the designation of 'Superintendent'. In 1872 this officer was displaced by a special Assistant to the Political Agent, who managed the affairs of Gondal, while from 1878, the management was entrusted to the Joint Administrators.

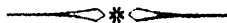
The Thakore Saheb, after finishing his education at the Rajkumar College, proceeded to Europe in company with Col. Hancock in 1883. He has published his impressions of the voyage in a book called 'journal of a visit to England, 1883.' After a tour of six months he returned to his capital and was then associated with Col. Nutt in the administration of the State. A sound training in the State-craft fitted him for an independent assumption of the State management. His reply to the address of Col. West, the then Political Agent of Kathiawad, on the occasion of the installation, was pronounced by the Government to be highly creditable, "showing the good feeling and good taste, and his description of his duties as a ruler evinces a sound and clear judgment." The Thakore Saheb was publicly complimented on his successful administration, three years later, by H. E. Lord Reay, in the following terms:—

"Thakor Saheb! though you have been only three years on the *gadi* I believe you have acted up to the pledges you then gave."

Thakore Saheb Bhagwantsinhji is a Fellow of the Bombay University and a vice-President of the Deccan Education Society. He again proceeded to Europe in 1886, entrusting the management to his trusted Diwan, Mr. Bezanji, to satisfy the love of science that he had imbibed at the College, by attending for a year at the Edinburgh University. In appreciation of his "exemplary quest of knowledge" the honorary degree of L. L. D. was conferred on him in 1887. He availed himself of his presence in Scotland in complying with the request to be a member of the deputation of the Kathiawad chiefs that waited on Her Imperial Majesty, on the occasion of the celebration of the Jubilee year of her reign. He was on that auspicious occasion created a Knight Grand Commander of the Indian Empire. He is a joint proprietor of 'the Bhavnagar, Gondal, Junagarh and Porbandar Railway' and was prepared to advance the necessary capital to the Nawanagar State for the construction of the Rajkot, Nawanagar line, but his conditions not being complied with, the negotiation fell through. Good travelling roads, schools, hospitals, resthouses, Post and Telegraph offices, and Courts of justice testify to the immense beneficent work of a prince with such highly cultivated sense of his duty towards his subjects. The Government in a fine appreciative spirit raised the State to the first class. The ill health of his consort necessitated a trip to England for the third time in 1889. Her Highness had an interview with Her most Gracious Majesty, who personally invested her with the Imperial Order of the Crown of India.

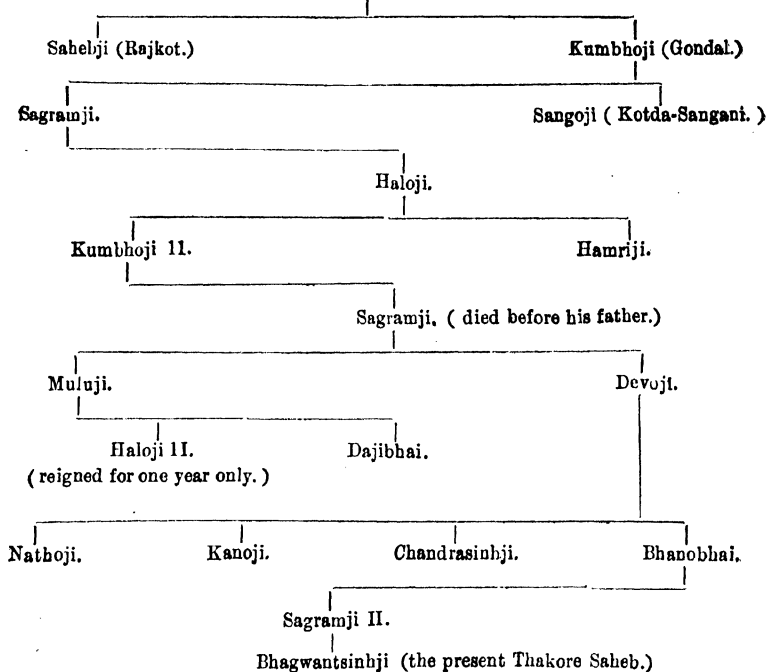
For the numerous charities and donations and the abolition of many vexatious taxes, his happy and contented subjects have raised a statue in honor of the Thakore Saheb by voting a public subscription.

Thakore Saheb Sir Bhagwantsinhji enjoys full civil and criminal powers and is entitled to a salute of 11 guns.



Genealogical tree.

Meheramanji (Rajkot.)



Residence.—Gondal, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.



JHABUA.

Area.—1,336 sq. miles. Population.—119,789.

Revenue.—1,28,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the States of Kushalgarh, Ratlam and Sailana; on the east, by the districts of Amjhara and Dhar; on the south, by Ali Rajpur and Jobat; and on the west, by the Dohad and Jhalod sub-divisions of the Panch Mahals.

The rulers of Jhabua are Rathod Rajputs, descended from the same stock as the Maharaja of Jodhpur. More than 300 years ago, the place, where Jhabua at present stands, was a dense and impassable *jungle*, where Jhabu, a celebrated Vanjara of the Labana tribe, took up his temporary abode. Jhabu's name was then known far and wide, and he had many retainers in his service. He ordered the *jungle* to be cut-down and there built houses for his companions. People from the surrounding villages flocked thither, and, in course of time, the place, which was, shortly before, a wild desert, became a thriving town. In honor of the *Nayak* (leader) it began to be known by the name of Jhabua. Jhabu then assumed the functions and dignity of a ruler over the inhabitants of that place, as well as over the Bhils living in adjacent hamlets. This small principality was eventually conquered from one of the descendants of Jhabu Nayak by Keshav Das Rathod, the ancestor of the present Chief. From that time Jhabua became the capital of the Rathod chiefdom.

After the death of Maharaja Jodhaji, the founder of Jodhpur, his eldest son, Suraj Mal, wore the crown of Marwad in 1489. He conferred upon his younger brother, Var Sinh, the estate of Panahi. After his demise, Panahi was held successively by Sihunji, Jaya Sinh, Ram Sinh and Bhim Sinh. The last of them was reigning at Panahi, when the Emperor, Jahangir, held the Imperial sceptre. The Emperor was on terms of intimacy with Bhim Sinh, who was ordered to lead an expedition against Bengal in 1625. He achieved a brilliant success, and the Emperor, in recognition of his services, bestowed upon him the right of keeping in his army a drum and a flag, and also granted him 52 *paragnas* in Malwa, to defray the expenses of his troops. In addition to all this he received the title of "*Panch Hazari*" i. e. "Leader of the five thousand". After the bestowal of the above stated *jagir*, Bhim Sinh took up his residence at a village, called Barnagar, and began to rule over his newly acquired territories. It so happened that there lived at Barnagar a land-holder, who,

promising a high remuneration to the local *Bhavaiyas* (indigenous comic actors), induced them to produce a scenic representation, in which the relatives of the Maharaja of Jodhpur were made to dance like courtesans on a field of battle. Bhim Sinh was so much annoyed that he at once ordered twelve of the leading land-holders to be plastered up in the city wall. He incurred the displeasure of the Emperor, Jahangir, for inflicting such condign punishment on the poor land-holders without his sanction. All his territories were sequestered by the orders of the Emperor. Bhim Sinh and his comrades, bereft of all their lands, retired to Badnawar. When Prince Khurram (afterwards Shah Jahan) rebelled against his father, Bhim Sinh espoused the cause of the heir-apparent. In recognition of the valuable services rendered by the Rajput chief, Shah Jahan, after his accession to the imperial throne, restored to him all his territories, and assigned him a respectable place among the leading nobility of the realm. Bhim Sinh was ordered to accompany the Prince, Shah Shuja, in his expedition against the Deccan, and it was mainly through his gallantry that success attended the Imperial arms. The Prince commended the valiant deeds of Bhim Sinh to his royal parent, who was much delighted with his loyalty and devotion towards the Mughal Crown. Shortly after, Bhim Sinh obtained his master's permission to retire to Badnawar, where he died immediately after his arrival. Five of his wives immolated themselves on the funeral pyre. After his death his son, Keshav Das, inherited his high dignity and command. The Emperor Aurangzeb * once despatched him, at the head of a large army, to chastise the rebel chief of Jhabua, who had killed the Mughal Viceroy of Gujarat. When he reached the neighbourhood of Petlawad, Rama Nayak, a Puttawat of Jhabu Nayak, and belonging to the Labana tribe, assembled together his friends and relations and offered him a strong resistance. He was the feudal lord of Ramgarh, against whom Keshav Das fought with conspicuous bravery. In the fight Rama Nayak was killed and Keshav Das, placing his detachments there, proceeded on to Jhabua.

• Though the Nayak of that place was a mere Vanjara of the Labana tribe, he was a match for the chivalrous Rajput. No sooner did the intelligence of Keshav Das's invasion reach his ears than grand preparations

* Sir John Malcolm and Mr. Mackay have both stated that Keshav Das assisted the Emperor, Ala-ud-Din, in getting rid of the Nayak of Jhabua, but this does not seem to be historically accurate, for Ala-ud-Din was reigning at Delhi in the 13th century, while Keshav Das flourished in the 18th century of the Christian era. It thus evidently appears that Ala-ud-Din is misplaced for Aurangzeb.

were set on foot to baffle him in his attempt. The rival armies met on a field near Jhabua, which soon became a scene of dreadful carnage. The surrounding atmosphere reverberated with the cries of desperate soldiers, and the sounds of drums, cymbals, bugles and other instruments. Vultures, crows, kites and other carrion birds were seen hovering about the place in the hope of getting a rich banquet. Spouts of blood began to flow from the bodies of brave soldiers. Heads of brave warriors on both sides were found rolling in blood, severed from trunks, like sheaves of corn. The battle-field was covered over with "mountains of the dead;" and blood flowed there in streams. A fierce contest lasted for a long time, without any decisive result. At last Keshav Das led the attack in person, and, forcing his way through the enemy's lines, he reached the spot where the brave Nayak stood. Now had the proper time come for each to shew his exceptional valour. Keshav Das brandished his sword and the Nayak lifted up his spear. With a single blow Keshav Das lopped the head of his adversary off his trunk, and the army, deprived of its commander, fled in confusion. The victor took possession of Jhabua and finding it an agreeable place, stayed there for some time. Keshav Das may thus be considered the first of the Rajput chiefs of Jhabua. After some time he went to the presence of the Emperor, who rewarded his services with the grant of the conquered dominions and further honoured him with the title of 'Raja'.

After the death of Keshav Das, the Jhabua *gadi* was successively occupied by Karanji, Maha Sinh, Kasal Sinh and Anop Sinh. During the reign of the last named chief, the grand Mughal empire reached its last stage of decay, and the feudatory chiefs were fighting among themselves for supremacy. The chief of Ratlam invaded Jhabua, and in the struggle Anop Sinh was slain. The greater portion of the Jhabua territories fell into the hands of the Ratlam chief, who conferred it on his younger brother, Jaya Sinh of Sailana. Anop Sinh was succeeded at Jhabua by his younger brother, Indra Sinh. He reconquered his possessions from the chief of Sailana. After Indra Sinh's death, Bahadur Sinh ascended the throne. He caused a strong fortification to be erected on the hill surrounding Jhabua, as a bulwark against the inroads of the Marathas. He also caused a large reservoir to be excavated at the foot of the hill. After reigning for some time he expired; and Bhim Sinh succeeded him. In his reign the whole territory was overrun by Holkar, and the revenues of Jhabua were considerably reduced. Maharaja Holkar had, however, entrusted the work of

collecting the *chouth* from the conquered territories to the vanquished chief. Of the three sons of Bhim Sinh, the eldest, Pratap Sinh, occupied the *gauli* after his father's death. It was in his reign that the English troops for the first time set their foot on the Malwa soil. In 1821, a treaty was concluded between the English Government and the chief of Jhabua, by which the estate of Jhabua was taken under the protection of the more powerful British arms. The English guaranteed regular payment of the annual tribute to Maharaja Holkar. After the conclusion of this treaty, the Chief died without issue, and the principality of Jhabua devolved upon his nephew, Ratan Sinh, son of Salam Sinh. One night, while enjoying his ride he was accidentally killed, in the very prime of his youth, by a stroke of lightning. Though he had no issue, at the time of his death, one of his Ranis was in the family way, and a son was born to her, who was named Gopal Sinh.

After the birth of that prince, Moti Sinh, the brother of the late chief, gave out to the authorities that the child had no right to succeed to the throne, as he was spurious, and that the Rani had purchased him from a potter, the real father of the infant, and fraudulently set him up as her own son. The British Government deputed Colonel Borthwick, the Political Agent of Mahidpur, to proceed to Jhabua and investigate into the matter. A regular enquiry was held, in which it was proved beyond any shadow of doubt that Gopal Sinh was the legitimate son of the late chief, Ratan Sinh. Moti Sinh, aggrieved with this decision, assembled together a regular army, consisting of Bhils and other wild tribes, and flying into open rebellion, sacked the adjoining villages under Jhabua. He harassed Gopal Sinh and his officers from his place of concealment in the neighbouring woods and hills. At last he was arrested by Major Buticull and made over to the Resident of Indore, who kept him a prisoner in the fort of Asirgarh. After a long imprisonment, he undertook to remain quiet and orderly and to own allegiance to his nephew, Gopal Sinh. Sir Robert Hamilton, the then Resident of Indore, ordered his release and put him in possession of his estate. As a mark of approbation, Gopal Sinh entertained the Resident at a grand banquet. Ever since Moti Sinh remained till his death a loyal and devoted vassal of Raja Gopal Sinh.

During the dark days of the Mutiny, Raja Gopal Sinh rendered substantial assistance to the Government, for which he was allowed to exercise criminal jurisdiction to a limited extent. All cases of heinous and serious

offences are tried ordinarily by the Political Agent of Bhopawar. All capital sentences passed in cases conducted by the Political Agent are subject to the confirmation of the Agent to H. E. the Governor General in Central India.

All transit duties are abolished in the State.

The chief has ceded all sovereign rights over the lands occupied for Railway purposes and similarly in 1891 the sovereign rights over lands required for the Godhra Ratlam Railway were also ceded, free of cost.

Raja Gopal Sinh expired in 1895; as he left no issue behind him his adopted son, Raja Udai Sinh, succeeded him on the throne. His Highness Raja Udai Sinh is the present reigning Chief, and is 19 years old.

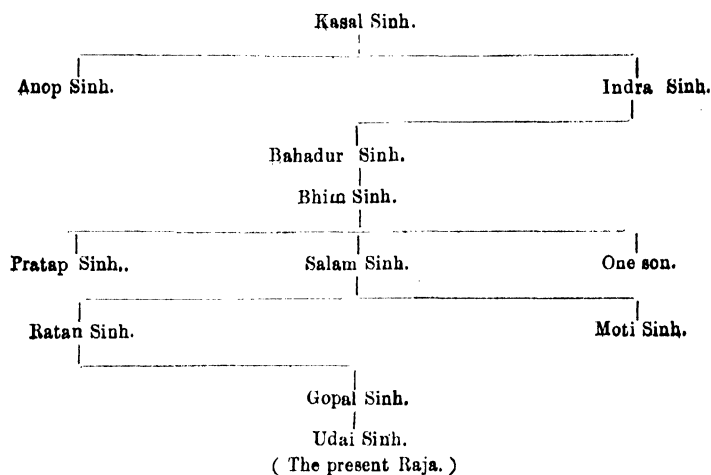
This principality is distributed among several land-holders. Nearly twenty of these feudatory chiefs pay every year to Maharaja Holkar the sum of 15,000 rupees : while to their own chief they pay annually the sum of 25,000 rupees.

The Raja of Jhabua holds inferior judicial powers. He has been granted the right of adoption and receives a salute of 11 guns.



Genealogical tree.

Var Sinh, Sihunji, Jaga Sinh, Sam Sinh, Bhim Sinh, Keshav Das,
Karanji, Maha Sinh and



Residence.—Jhabua, Bhopawar Agency ; Central India.



KAHLUR (Bilaspur).

Area.—451 sq. miles. Population.—91,760.

Revenue.—1,00,000 rupees.

The rulers of Kahlur are Rajputs by birth. In the beginning of the present century, the Gurkhas invaded Kahlur and reduced it to submission. In 1815 they were expelled by the English and Kahlur was restored to its hereditary Chief. In 1848 when the Punjab was annexed to the British crown, the Chief was recognized as the independent ruler of Kahlur. He was also put in possession of those territories on the left of the river Sutlej, for which he had to pay a tribute to the Sikh ruler of Lahore. The English relinquished their right over the tribute, in return whereof the Raja abolished all the transit dues which hampered the trade within his territories. In 1865 the British Government made over to the Raja the *paragnas* of Basse and Bachertu, in consideration of an annual tribute of 8,000 rupees to be paid by the Raja. The Chief of Kahlur materially assisted the English during the Mutiny of 1857, and the Paramount Power rewarded his services by the presentation of a rich dress of honour of the value of 5,000 rupees and a salute of 7 guns. It was subsequently raised to 11 guns. The name of the ruler thus honoured was Raja Hira Chand; he was born in 1835.

The Raja was present at the Imperial Assemblage held at the ancient capital, Delhi, by His Excellency Lord Lytton, on 1st January 1877, in commemoration of the assumption by Her Majesty Queen Victoria of the title of 'Empress of India.'

Raja Hira Chand, after reigning for 32 years, died on his way back from Simla to Kahlur. He was succeeded by his son, Amar Chand, who dying shortly after, was succeeded in 1889 by his minor son, Bijaya Chand, who is the present Chief of Kahlur. During his minority the State affairs were conducted by a Council of Regency.

Raja Bijaya Chand has inferior judicial powers and receives a salute of 11 guns.

Genealogical tree.

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Hira] Chand.
  |
Amar Chand.
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Bijaya Chand.
( The Present Raja. )

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Residence.—Kahlur, Punjab; Northern India.

KAPURTHALA.

Area.—1,298 sq. miles. Population.—552,690.

Revenue.—21,25,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north, by the Himalaya Mountains; on the east, by the Jalandhar Doab; on the South, by the river Sutlej; and on the west, by the district of Amritsar.

The ancestors of the Raja of Kapurthala originally resided at the village of Ahlu, in the Bari Doab, whence their descendants have adopted the name of Ahluwalia. Its founder, Jassa Singh, was a Jat Kalal, an inhabitant of Ahlu, who taking advantage of a Sikh rising in the Punjab, encroached upon certain lands in the Doab and became a powerful land-holder in 1780. One of his descendants, Fattah Singh, then conquered some portions of the surrounding districts and obtaining rich grants from the Maharaja, Ranjit Singh, the "Lion of the Punjab," considerably enhanced the territorial extent of his domains.

When some of the Cis-Sutlej states sought the protection of the English arms in 1809, against the more powerful Maharaja of Lahore, Fattah Singh, too, acknowledged the supremacy of the British Government. He agreed to defray all the expenses of the English contingent, that might be stationed within his territories for the protection of the threatened principalities, and also to assist the English in the event of any war being declared against their enemies. In direct contravention of these terms, when the first Sikh War was declared in 1846, the Chief of Kapurthala not only withheld his assistance from the English, but on the contrary, espousing the cause of the Sikhs, he fought against the English at the battle of Aliwal. The British Government thereupon sequestered all his Cis-Sutlej estates, while the Trans-Sutlej territories were allowed to remain in the Chief's possession, only on condition of his remaining loyal to the British Crown. It was also agreed that he should pay to the English at the time of war the sum of 1,31,000 rupees and should abolish all transit duties within his territories.

After Fattah Singh's death, Nihal Singh became the next Sardar of Kapurthala. It was only after the annexation of the Punjab to the British dominions in 1849, that Nihal Singh, who was hitherto styled 'Sardar', was recognised as the independent Raja of Kapurthala. He during his life time was, further, put in possession of all the Bari Doab territories which had been forfeited by the English, though they retained in their

hands the sole jurisdiction over all those districts. Raja Nihal Singh died in September 1852, and was succeeded by his son, Randhir Singh. He assisted the English during the Indian Mutiny of 1857. In return for these services all those estates which were granted to his father only for life, and which had, after his death, lapsed to the British Crown, were now bestowed upon him in perpetuity together with two additional estates, belonging to the deposed Nawab of Oudh, on condition of his remitting every year to the English treasury a moiety of their revenues (1859). He also received in 1862 a *sanad* conferring on him the right of adoption.

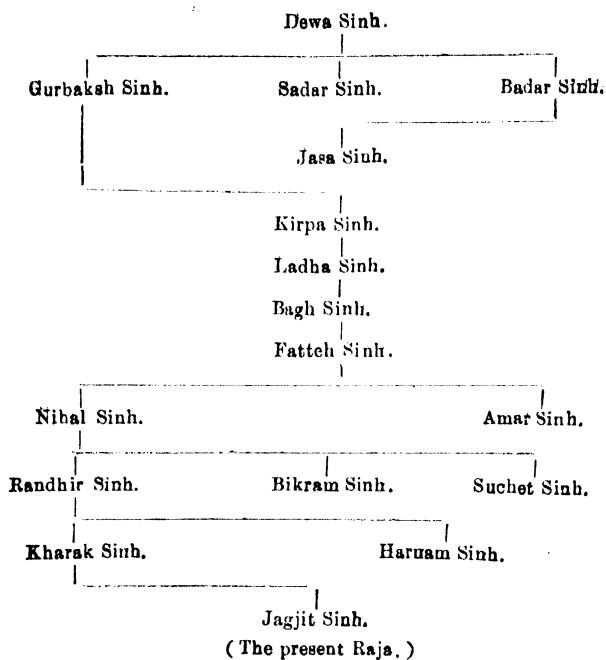
In 1864 the Raja was honoured with the title of the Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India. Sir Randhir Singh G. C. S. I. undertook, in 1869, a voyage to England, but on his way back, unfortunately died at Aden on the shores of Arabia, in the month of April 1870. He was succeeded by his eldest son, Kharak Singh, who was then 21 years old. He was found incapable to administer the State with efficiency, and the British Government, for the proper management of affairs of the State, appointed, in 1875, a superintendent under the direct control of the Commissioner of Jalandhar Doab. Kharak Singh went to Lahore in 1876 to pay his respects to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, then travelling in India. The young Raja died in September 1877, and was succeeded by his son, Jagjit Singh, the present ruler of Kapurthala.

Jagjit Singh was only six years old at the time of his accession, and it was arranged, by the Imperial Government, to conduct the administration during his minority, by means of a Regency Council. He was, however, entrusted with sole management on his attaining the age of discretion, on the 24th November 1890.

The Raja of Kapurthala has judicial inferior powers and is entitled to a salute of 11 guns.



Genealogical tree.



Residency.—Kapurthala, Trans-Punjab ; Northern India.



MANDI.

Area.—1,131 sq. miles. Population.—166,923.

Revenue.—4,06,075 rupees.

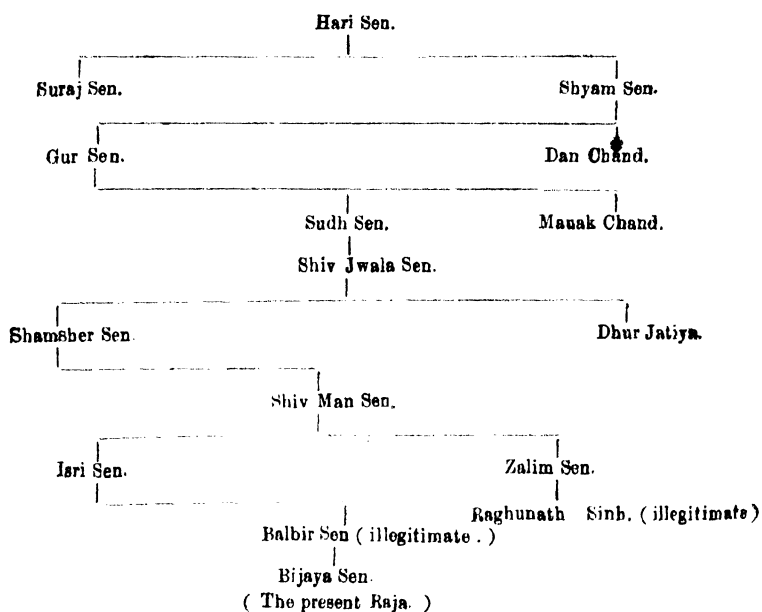
This State is bounded on the north and west by Kangra ; on the east by Kulu ; and on the south by Suket.

The rulers of Mandi are Rajputs of the Chandra Bansi (lunar race) clan and are known by the appellation of Mandial. They are styled Rajas. It is said that about the year 1200, a dispute arose between the reigning prince of Suket and his younger brother, Bahu Sen, whereupon the latter leaving Suket, retired to Kulu, whence he proceeded to Manglaur. His descendants flourished there for eleven succeeding generations. One, Bano, in his line assassinated the Rana of Sakor and ruled there for several years. He then took up his abode at Chin, a small village situated on the banks of the Bias, about four miles from Mandi. At last in 1527, Ajbar Sen, nineteenth in descent from Bahu Sen, founded the town of Mandi, and made it his capital. There flourished several Rajas from Ajbar Sen to Hari Sen, but their names are in obscurity. After the death of Hari Sen, the twenty-fourth Raja, the *gadi* of Mandi was successively occupied by Suraj Sen, Shyam Sen, Gur Sen, Sudh Sen, Shiv Jwala Sen, Shamsher Sen, Shiv Man Sen, and Isri Sen. In the reign of this Raja (from 1779 to 1826) the principality of Mandi fell into the hands of the Gurkha ruler, Kahoch ; but it was finally conquered from them by Maharaja Ranjit Sinh. In 1840, it was a mere feudatory principality, paying tribute to the Maharaja of Lahore. It was eventually subjugated by the Sikh general, Ventura, who captured the principal fort of Kamlagarh, on behalf of Kharrak Sinh, the son of Ranjit Sinh. The Chief surrendered himself to his formidable antagonist, but subsequently implored the assistance of the English arms, and openly took up their side after their victory at Sobraon. Afterwards by the treaty of Lahore in 1846, the principality of Mandi was taken under the protection of the English. It was then governed by Raja Balbir Sen, the successor of Ishri Sen. The British Government conferred upon him a *sanad*, by which an unfettered control over Mandi and its territories was permanently ensured to him and his successors. An yearly tribute of a *lakh* of rupees was agreed to be paid to the British Crown, and the Chief consented to assist the English with men and money during the time of war. The Chief also acceded to the other conditions of abolishing all obnoxious dues, promoting trade and putting a stop to the wicked practices of slavery and *sati*.

Balbir Sen died in the year 1859, and was succeeded by his son Bijaya Sen. He was born in 1846. During his minority the administration was carried on by a Council of Regency. In 1866 on his attaining the age of majority, he was entrusted with the sole management of the State, but a British officer was appointed as his adviser in the general conduct of affairs. The place was, however, abolished in 1873. The Raja, Bijaya Sen, was present at the Imperial Assemblage held at Delhi, by Lord Lytton on 1st January 1877, on the occasion of the assumption by Her Majesty the Queen of the title of the Empress of India.

The Raja of Mandi has judicial inferior powers and receives a salute of 11 guns.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Mandi, Trans-Sutlej States, Punjab; Northern India.



MANIPUR.

Area.—8000 sq. miles. Population.—2,20,000.

Revenue.—90,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north, by the Naga Hill District; on the east, by a part of upper Burma; on the south, by Lushai-land and the country of the Sukte Kukis; and on the west, by Kachar.

About the ancient history of Manipur* nothing is known save that Pamheiba was its ruler in the year 1714, who, embracing Hinduism, adopted the name of Gharib Nawaz. He invaded the territory of Brahmadesh (Burma) after his accession to the throne, but failing in his attempt, he drew upon himself the wrath of the more powerful chief of the Burmese. They now constantly invaded the territory of Manipur and rendered desolate a great portion of its domains. Jaya Sinh, who succeeded Gharib Nawaz, invoked the assistance of the English against the inroads of the Burmese, and a treaty was concluded, for the first time, between the British Government and the Chief of Manipur, in the year 1762. A war was declared between the Burmese and the English in 1825, when the infuriated Burmese invaded Assam, Kachar and Manipur. They were, however, repulsed by Gambhir Sinh, the Chief of the last mentioned principality, with the help of the English army. The valley of Kubo fell into the hands of the Manipur Raja. Manipur was declared an independent State after the conclusion of a treaty with the Burmese in 1826. Maharaja Gambhir Sinhji died in 1834, leaving behind him an infant son, aged 12 months. During his minority the sole administration was entrusted to the care of his uncle, Nar Sinh, the great grandson of Gharib Nawaz, who was also appointed Regent to the infant prince. In 1834, the valley of Kubo was restored to the chief of Burma, through the intervention of the British Government, who guaranteed the payment to the Manipur chief of an annual sum of 6,370 rupees.

In 1844, an attempt was made upon Nar Sinh's life, which, however, proved unsuccessful. The mother of the infant prince was suspected to be a *particeps criminis*, whereupon she proceeded to Kachar with her son. Nar-Sinh usurped the sole government to himself, and began to rule as an independent Raja. In 1835, a British Political Agent was appointed to watch over the affairs of Manipur. Maharaja Nar Sinh died in the year 1850.

* The rulers of Manipur claim their descent from Babruvahan, the son of Arjuna, one of the Pandava brothers.

After Nar Sinh's death, his brother, Debendra Sinh, obtained recognition at the hands of the British Government as the chief of Manipur. Three months after his accession, Chandra Kirti Sinh, the rightful claimant to the throne, invaded Manipur and drove away the usurper, Debendra Sinh, who fled to Kachar. The influence and authority of Chandra Kirti Sinh becoming all powerful in Manipur, the British Government acknowledged him as the rightful Maharaja (1857).

Chandra Kirti Sinh materially assisted the English at the battle of Nagar in the year 1879, and the Paramount Power rewarded the Chief's services by the bestowal of the distinguished title of K. C. S. I. During the last Burmese war also the English obtained the assistance of the Manipur Chief.

Chandra Kirti Sinh died in the year 1885, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Sur Chandra Sinh. After an uneventful reign of five years, he was deposed, in September 1890, by his half-brother, Tikendrajit Bir Sinh, who held the command of the Manipur army. The ambitious General placed his elder brother, Kul Chandra Sinh, on the throne of Manipur.

Hardly had six months elapsed after the deposition of Maharaja Sur-Chandra Sinh, when a party of European officers, consisting of Mr. Quinton, the Chief Commissioner of Assam, his assistant Mr. Cousins, Col. Skein, Lieutenant Chatterton, Captain Boileau, Lieutenant Brackenbury and Surgeon Calvert went to Manipur in the month of March 1891, at the head of a small detachment of native troops, to re-instate Maharaja Sur-Chandra Sinh and apprehend his half-brother, Tikendrajit Bir Sinh. They reached Kohia on 14th March, and proceeding onward, they halted at Sanglai on the 21st of March. They were there met by Lieutenant Luggard with his regiment. Mr. Grimwood, the Political Agent of Manipur, came as far as Sanglai to meet the Commissioner, but soon after returned to Manipur to make the necessary arrangements for holding a Darbar on the occasion of the reinstallation of the deposed Maharaja. The Chief Commissioner, with the other European officers, reached Manipur on the 22nd of March, and were met half way by the Commander-in-Chief of the Manipur troops, who cordially welcomed the Commissioner and his companions to the capital. The Manipur dignitary was exceedingly polite in his conversation with Mr. Quinton, and very affably expressed his desire to show to his guests the indigenous dance of Polo.

After a short respite Mr. Quinton held a Darbar at the Residency, at 12 o'clock noon, which was attended by the ruling chief and the other leading gentry of Manipur; Tikendrajit Bir Sinh was conspicuous by his absence.

Another Darbar was held at 3 o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, while a third one was held the next day (23rd March) at 8 o'clock in the morning. None of the Manipuris attended these subsequent Darbars. Mr. Grimwood that day oft repaired to the palace to hold consultations with the Maharaja and the Commander-in-Chief, and became a medium of discourse between Mr. Quinton and the Manipur dignitaries. When the Commissioner perceived that all his attempts at bringing about an amicable settlement were futile, he ordered all the arms and ammunitions to be brought out of the Segai under the command of Colonel Skein. At seven o'clock in the evening of the same day, Mr. Quinton sent through Mr. Grimwood an *ultimatum* to the Maharaja and the Commander-in-Chief, to the effect that in case the latter did not surrender himself to the British authorities within a stated time, he would be arrested and imprisoned by the British troops. Tikendrajit Bir Sinh evinced an open contempt for the orders of the Commissioner, and Mr. Grimwood returned to the camp with the most unsatisfactory reply. Mr. Quinton at last ordered his men to lay siege to the house of the recalcitrant Commander. Captain Bucher was advised to stand in front of the house and fire a volley of shots from that position; while Lieutenant Chatterton was ordered to secure the southern gate of the beleaguered house. Colonel Skein was deputed to protect the British camp, while the Residency was entrusted to the care of the faithful native soldiery.

The morning of the 24th March first saw the English army engaged in battering the Commander's palace at Manipur. Captain Bucher, after some difficulty, succeeded in effecting his entrance into the house, but found the culprit removed to another place of security. Lieutenant Brackenbury with his brave comrades, advanced in the northern direction of the house and was warmly received by the Manipuris, who were standing on the walls, determined to contest every inch of ground with the invaders. The British officer received several shots on his body and was mortally wounded. When Colonel Skein learnt that Lieutenant Brackenbury and his regiment had come to such a dangerous pass, he at once despatched to their succour the 43rd Gurkha Regiment under the command of Lieutenant Simpson, but before these re-inforcements could come upon the scene of action, Lieu-

tenant Brackenbury had safely removed his men to a place of security on the bank of the river. His wounds were bleeding profusely and he had become exceedingly weak. Surgeon Calvert dressed his wounds and did his utmost to save him, but he did not rally and died early in the morning of the next day. Lieutenant Luggard had also received a wound but under the able treatment of the medical officer he showed signs of improvement. Mrs. Grimwood, the wife of the Political Agent of Manipur, evinced remarkable fortitude at such a critical juncture and did not seem in the least confounded at such a fearful sight. Though the cannon-balls reached the very Bungalow in the Residency in which she was seated, she appeared perfectly calm and resigned and was engaged in looking after and tending the wounded, who were brought into the Residency house and placed under her care. All those who witnessed the remarkable courage of this brave lady were struck with surprise and began with one voice to admire her energy and fortitude.

When the Commissioner, Mr. Quinton, and Colonel Skein saw that the Manipuris were too strong for a handful of English soldiers, they ordered their men in the evening to retire and take shelter within the precincts of the British Residency. During the fight the English had already lost one officer, one native officer and 30 soldiers. At 9 o'clock in the evening, Mr. Quinton, the Chief Commissioner, held a consultation with Colonel Skein, the officer commanding the British army, Mr. Grimwood, the Political Agent of Manipur, and other chief officers; and they all came to the conclusion that it was safe under the circumstances to come to terms with the Maharaja of Manipur. Gun shots indicative of peace were forthwith ordered to be fired from the Residency, and the Manipuris, too, responded to these salvos. After a short interval a Manipuri officer, coming out of the palace, asked the British authorities on what terms were they seeking for peace. Mr. Grimwood replied that they thought of sending a letter to the Maharaja and desired the Manipuri officer to convey it to him. An orderly from near the gate of the palace advanced and took the letter to the Maharaja. Mr. Quinton, Mr. Grimwood and Colonel Skein remained all the while seated at the gate of the Manipur Residency, anxiously awaiting a reply. In the meanwhile the Manipur officer ascending the walls of the palace enquired after the number of soldiers killed in the fight on the side of the English. Before receiving any answer, he added that 46 men of the 93rd Regiment, who were advancing towards Jalangbat, were all slain at the hands of

the Manipuris and their arms have been all seized by them and made use of against the English in other quarters.

After some time the long expected reply from the Maharaja was received. It was written in the Manipuri language, in which the Maharaja had expressly stated that if the English at all hoped for peace they should at once surrender themselves to the Maharaja, laying down their arms at his feet in token of complete submission. Hostile operations were first commenced by the English and not by the Manipuris; and if the English now desired peace they must seek it by an unqualified submission. This was a dire calamity indeed, and Mr. Quinton solicited the opinions of Colonel Skein and Mr. Grimwood as to how they should behave under such emergent circumstances. It was after all resolved to hold a personal interview with the Maharaja. Mr. Quinton thereupon asked the Manipuri officer whether the English officers could hold a consultation with the Maharaja without in any way exposing their lives to danger. The Manipuri officer craftily replied 'Why do you entertain such an imaginary fear. Do you not see that we have been always adoring you like God'? Such an answer threw them off their guard. And Mr. Quinton set out for the palace, attended by Mr. Grimwood, Colonel Skein, Mr. Cousins and Lieutenant Simpson. Lieutenant Gordon, the Asst. Commissioner, and Lieutenant Chatterton expressed their desire to accompany them to the palace, but, when Mr. Grimwood told them that if they were at all inclined to repair with them they had better leave their swords, gun and other arms in the Residency and proceed with them unarmed, they chose to stay behind in the Residency rather than run the risk of falling an easy victim into the hands of the enemy.

The English officers who remained in the Residency now fancied that everything would be amicably settled in no time, and, in such a state of delusion, they sat down together to partake of light refreshments, provided by the hospitable wife of the Political Agent. When the English officers who had gone to the palace to confer with the Maharaja did not return till one o'clock at midnight, Mrs. Grimwood began to grow apprehensive and she questioned every officer in the Residency if one could guess the fate of those officers, including her husband. It was ascertained on inquiry that the Englishmen, who had gone for an interview with the chief of Manipur, had been conducted into the innermost apartments of the palace. While Mrs. Grimwood and the officers in the Residency were with long

faces thinking of the sad fate that would befall them, one of the Manipuris, ascending the walls of the palace, exclaimed with a loud voice that they should not expect the officers to return from the palace, and that they should be prepared for a speedy attack from the Manipur army. Hardly two or three minutes had elapsed after the utterance of these prophetic words when the men in the Residency 'heard the distant and the random guns that the foe was sullenly firing.' The eyes of the English were now opened to the fact that the Manipuris had played false with them and that there was not left even a shade of a shadow of doubt as to the commencement of hostilities. They were also alive to the fact that they were too few to cope with the numerous forces of the Manipur Chief, and they now determined to leave the Residency and fly to some other place of safety.

They secretly issued out of the Bungalow during the dead of night, and headed by that heroic lady, Mrs. Grimwood, who was not a stranger to that part of the country, they reached a place out of the reach of the Manipur forces. The Manipuri soldiers, seeing the Residency deserted by the handful of valiant Britons, looted the treasury and burnt the Bungalow. When Mrs. Grimwood, the seven English officers and native soldiery arrived, during their onward progress, at the road leading to Bisanpur, they saw a few of the Manipur soldiers, armed for battle, ready to obstruct their march. When they saw that the Manipuris were ill disposed towards them, they thought it unsafe to proceed to Bisanpur, and, going up the adjoining hills, they remained there for a few hours. At two o'clock in the noon some of the Kuki allies of the Manipur Chief went to the British camp, and informed them that if they did not at once leave those hills, they would be attacked and destroyed. When the English officers told them that they were lying there, waiting for the army already on its way back from Manipur, the Kukis at once left them. The English soon after decamped from that spot and proceeded further on. They were obstructed by several detachments of the Manipur troops. Mrs. Grimwood's groom happened to know the Manipur language and through him they informed the foes that they were all going to see Mrs. Grimwood off. The Manipuris allowed them to pass undisturbed, but they told the English officers to return to Manipur and fight with them after they had escorted the 'Saheb's wife' to a place of security. While marching onward they lost their way. They had walked over twenty five miles at a single stretch and they were all fatigued to death. Mrs. Grimwood was completely disabled and, while walking, she often stumbled and dropped down unconscious. For the whole day they had not tasted a parti-

cle of food, nor was there any likelihood of their getting it for some time to come. They stopped moving onward and lay encamped at a secure place. The next day (26th March) they raised their camp and began to march further on. Soon after, they were fortunate enough to get clear of the thick *jungle* and come upon a high prominent road. While pursuing their weary way, they saw at about 9 in the morning ten Manipuris cooking their food. Hungry as wolves these English men fell upon the Manipuris and securing their food made them all prisoners. Nine of them were subsequently released, while the tenth was taken with them to serve as a guide in their onward journey. They continued to march in the direction where the Manipuri guide led them, when at last they reached a spot, whence they could espy the 43rd Gurkha Regiment marching onward. They soon overtook the Gurkhas who, taking pity on them, supplied them with provisions and other necessaries of life. At ten o'clock in the night, they left the Gurkha Regiment and continuing their course, they walked five miles and then halted for rest at a secure place.

They renewed their march early in the morning of the next day *i. e.* 27th March, and while proceeding further, they encountered at noon a small band of Manipur soldiers, who were attacked and dispersed by them without any serious difficulty; while flying for their lives, the Manipuris left behind them all their provisions which fell into the hands of the British soldiers. They reached Kalanga on the 28th, where the Nagas, a wild mountain tribe, treated them with great consideration and provided them with abundant food and good potable water. The 29th and 30th of March were two uneventful days during which they kept up their further progress. On the evening of the 31st they arrived at a spot, called Jhiri ghaut. After taking a short respite, they pursued their endless journey and trudging over a distance of 16 weary miles, they reached Lakhipur on the 1st of April. They remained there on the 2nd and resuming their journey, they reached Kachar on the 3rd of April. They were received with great kindness by the local tea-planters, and, after undergoing such unheard-of miseries and privations, they were extremely happy to place their foot on their own soil.

Mr. Quinton, the Chief Commissioner of Assam, and the other European officers, who had gone to the palace to hold a conference with the Maharaja of Manipur, were first imprisoned by the treacherous Commander-in-Chief and then mercilessly murdered. This sad intelligence was brought to the notice of the Supreme Government by a messenger, who had succeeded in effect

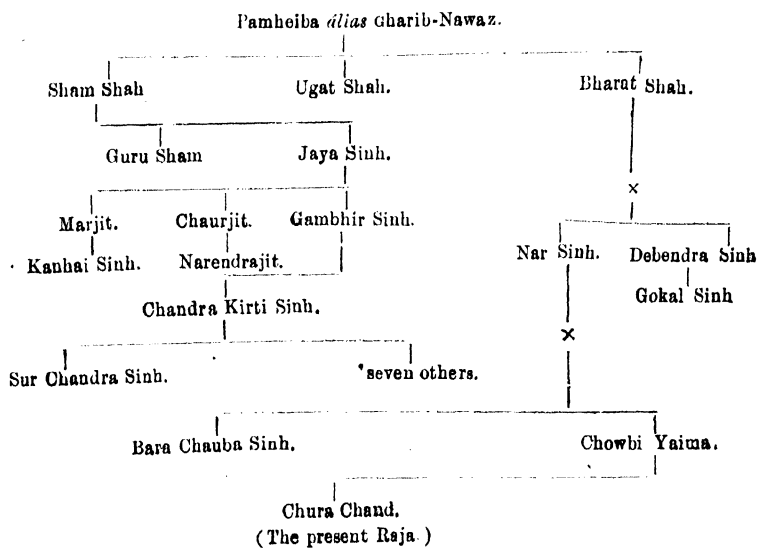
ing his escape from Manipur. The Governor-General at once ordered three separate detachments to march upon Manipur by different routes. They were expected to reach Manipur on the 25th April, but the roads being impassable, they were not able to move as fast as they were ordered to do. These troops consisted of 5,000 foot, 12 guns and 100 horse. The road to Manipur was interspersed with mountains and there was hardly grain and water enough for these men. The regiment under General Cole did not meet with formidable difficulties, but that marching through Silchar was obstructed by a band of hostile troops on the 23rd of April, who were, however, soon defeated and dispersed. The road was rendered impassable by the growth of thick forests, and several days were taken up in clearing them, before the guns could be carried onward. In the struggle many men of the Manipur faction were killed and their leader was taken prisoner. The detachment under General Graham had to cross their swords with the foes on the 25th of April. The enemy's army consisted of 1,000 men, who fought under the shelter of a wall built of mud. Guns were brought to bear upon this wall, which was demolished in no time, and 128 of the enemy's men were killed. Besides these, some of the flying foes were mowed down by the British cavalry and the enemy's loss was roughly estimated at 150 men killed and many more wounded. The Manipuris were so completely routed in this hand to hand fight that hardly any vantage ground was left them, on which they could now take up their stand. The English had only lost two of their soldiers. When General Graham was informed on the 24th that the enemy had mustered strong, he ordered the troops proceeding towards Tamu to march cautiously, ready to fight the enemy wherever they came face to face with each other. During the first assault many men on the side of the English lay wounded on the ground: Captains Drury and Carnegie receiving fearful wounds on hand and foot. The enemy, however, began to fly before the advancing army of the English till they reached the out-skirts of Manipur. The Manipuris, who were thus completely vanquished, now took to their heels. The English troops took possession of the Manipur palace and its treasury, while the reigning Chief and his murderous brother, the Commander-in-Chief, hid themselves in the adjoining hills. They were pursued thither and were seized alive.

A special Commission was appointed to investigate into the offences of these regal culprits. That tribunal found them guilty of the charges laid at their door i. e. of high treason and, with the sanction of the Governor-

General of India in Council and the Secretary of State for India, the Court-Martial passed capital sentence upon Tikendrajit Bir Sinh, the Commander-in-Chief of the Manipur forces, and Tongal General, who were both executed on the 13th of August. The British Government have placed Chura Chand, a boy aged five years, one of Nar Sinh's great-grandsons, on the Manipur throne. During his minority the administration is carried on under the supervision of a British officer. Manipur has since been reduced to the position of a feudatory State

The Chief of Manipur is entitled to a salute of 11 guns.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Manipur, Assam Agency; Eastern India.



MORBI.

Area.—821 sq. miles. Population.—105,335.

Revenue.—10,00,000 rupees.

The State of Morbi is bounded on the north, by the Run of Kutch ; on the east, by the territories of Dhrangadra and Wankaner ; on the south, by the States of Nawanagar and Rajkot ; while on the west, by Dhrol and Nawanagar.

The Thakore of Morbi is a Jadeja Rajput, descended from the same stock as the Rao of Kutch. It was formerly under the sway of the Mughal Emperors, but the grand monarch, Akbar, handed it over to the Rao of Kutch. It is said that when, in 1573, Gujarat was conquered by Akbar, Muzaffar III, then reigning at Ahmedabad, fled before the Imperial troops. He first made his escape towards the Rajpipla hills and subsequently he sought shelter at the courts of Nawanagar and Junagarh, and passing through Okhamandal and Barda, took refuge at the court of the Rao. Aji Koka, the then Mughal Viceroy of Gujarat, on being informed of the fugitive monarch's movements, sent his son, Abdul Khan, with a detachment of his troops, to Kutch in pursuit of the fallen foe. Khengarji, the ruling Rao, did not at once surrender the person of Muzaffar, who had sought his protection, to the representative of the Mughal Viceroy. Abdul Khan exceedingly harassed the Rao and his subjects, whereupon the Rao with the greatest reluctance handed over the Moslem fugitive to the Viceregal troops. While on his way to Ahmedabad, Muzaffar, to avert an ignominious death at the hands of his enemies, committed suicide by means of a razor. It was for thus surrendering* the person of Muzaffarshah to the Mughal officer that the Emperor was pleased to bestow upon the Rao the district of Morbi.

After the death of Khengarji, the *gadi* of Kutch was successively occupied by Bharmalji, Bhojrajji, Khengargi II, Tamachiji and Raydhanji. The latter ascended the ancestral cushion in 1666. He had ten sons, Nodhanji, Rawoji, Pragmalji, Sujoji, Limoji, Gopalji, Ashoji, Lakhoji, Modji and Abherajji. The eldest, Nodhanji, had died shortly before his father's demise, while the second, Rawoji, had fallen while fighting against Bhojrajji, the Sodha chief of Thar. The eldest, Nodhanji, had, however, left behind him a son, named Haloji, while Rawoji had left a son, named Kanyoji.

* The Jadejas deemed it a point of honor and duty to protect those who sought their shelter, but the action of Khengarji, in thus delivering over the person of Muzaffar to his foes, has brought a permanent stigma upon their character.

Raydhanji had, during his life time, entrusted to his sons the management of different districts. When the Rao died in 1698, his sons went to the burning ground to perform the obsequies in honor of their departed parent. The third, Pragmalji, however, stayed back under the pretext that he was suffering from some pain in his eyes. No sooner had the funeral cortege reached the ground of cremation than the Prince, taking advantage of the absence of his compatriots, sat upon the royal cushion and proclaimed himself the Rao, with the beating of drums and other tomtoms. The intelligence reached the ears of the princes, who began gazing at each other in wonderment. Godmalji, the son of the usurper, Pragmalji, was also there with his uncles, and he volunteered to go to the palace and expostulate with his father. The princes accorded him a willing consent. This was, however, meant to be a mere hoax, for as soon as he entered the town, he, in the exercise of his prerogative as a Kotwal, ordered the gates of the city to be closed against all intruders. The princes were thus left to themselves on the cremation ground and were even refused admittance into the town. They thereupon went to the different districts under their charge and set up independent chiefdoms, defying the authority of the Rao. Halaji obtained possession of Kanthi, Mundra and Kothara, while Kanyoji, the son of the deceased Rawoji, appropriated to himself Morbi and Kataria in Kutch. From this date (1698) Morbi became independent of Kutch, and Kanyoji became the founder of this new principality.

Pragmalji was succeeded on the throne of Kutch by Godmalji and Desalji, while the *gadi* of Morbi was all along occupied by Kanyoji. Rao Desalji had established his suzerainty over all his feudatory chiefs, who agreed to take up arms in support of their liege-lord, whenever called upon to do so, but Kanyoji, the veteran Chief of Morbi, throwing up all allegiance to the Kutch throne, ruled independently at Morbi. Once beseeching the help of Sher Buland Khan, the Suba of Gujarat, he invaded Kutch with an army, consisting of 50,000 men. Desalji was at his wits' end and did not know what to do. The invading army lay encamped near Madhapur and commenced a bombardment against the Bhujia hill-fort. They captured Bhundagaro and another battlement, when on the next day the besieged garrison was rescued by re-inforcements, sent by the various Bhayads. A fierce battle ensued, in which many men on both sides lay dead on the field. Among those killed was a nephew of Sher Buland Khan; whereupon he repaired to Ahmedabad and Kanyoji was compelled to retire to Morbi.

Kanyoji had eight sons, of whom the eldest, Tejmalji, had died during his life time. Aliyoji, the second son, was, therefore, the heir-apparent to the *gadi* of Morbi. The third, Bhimji, was given the *giras* of Gangan in Machhu Kantha and Naransari and other villages in Vagad. To the fourth, Lakhoji, were granted the appanages of Nagarvas in Machhu Kantha and Patia and other villages in Vagad. Rayasinhji received Kanjarda in Machhu Kantha and Kumbharia &c., in Vagad. While the appanages of Malia and Kumbharia in Machhu Kantha as well as Wandhia, Laliyana and Jangi in Vagad were respectively given to Modji, Ranmalji and Ramsinhji. In 1734, Kanyoji died and was succeeded by Aliyoji. He took up his residence for the greater part of the year at Adhoi in Vagad. It was he, who founded the sea-port town of Vavania on the gulf of Kutch. Within a short time after his accession, his brother, Modji, who became the founder of the chiefdom of Malia, summoned to his assistance the Miyanas, a tribe of highway robbers from Sindh, and with a view to throw up his allegiance to the ruler of Morbi, induced them, by offering fair terms, to settle with their families within his territory. These Miyanas were very brave and daring and were great adepts in dacoity and highway robbery. The seeds of dissension between Morbi and Malia were sown from the very day that these freebooters set their foot on the soil of Malia. These disputes lasted from generation to generation for several years.

Aliyoji, while on his way back from Dwarka, where he had repaired on a pilgrimage, was treacherously assassinated near Pardhari by the Girasia of that place, named Halaji *alias* Kakabhai (1740). He had at the time of his death two sons, Rawoji and Jehoji, of whom the elder, Rawoji, ascended the *gadi*. Jehoji, on the other hand, received in appanage several villages, including Modpur. Rawoji, to avenge the murder of his father, attacked and laid waste Pardhari and conquered seven villages under the Nawanagar territory. The Jam's army reconquered six of these, one after the other, but the seventh, Ghunada, is still held by the Chief of Morbi. Rawoji caused a wall to be built in the rear of the town and enhanced the territorial extent of his dominions. He incurred a heavy expenditure in carrying on the dispute with the Malia State, handed down from sire to son. When Prince Lakhpatji of Kutch, owing to some difference with his father, went over to Morbi in 1758, Rawoji entertained him at his Court for three consecutive months.

Rawoji, dying in 1768, was succeeded by his eldest son, Pachanji. He left behind him also other sons, who were all well-provided with *giras*. Nothing is known about Ajobhai and Rayabji, but Jivanji, Vanoji and Veroji got the estates of Lajai, Susvad and Deraru respectively.

Pachanji was a highly intelligent prince, gifted with a very beautiful and prepossessing countenance. He also kept up the hereditary hostility with the chief of Malia. He sought the assistance of the Nawab of Junagarh for the destruction of Malia, but in the end he was not able to effect anything more than what was done by his predecessor.

In 1772, Pachanji breathed his last and was succeeded by his son, Vaghji. He, with the help of Amarji, Diwan of Junagarh, invaded the territory of Vagad in Kutch, and seized the towns of Palanswa and Korla. The Rao of Kutch, instead of meeting them in a regular battle, appeased them with rich presents, whereupon they crossed the Run and returned to their respective territories. Vaghji was not only involved in the family feud with the chief of Malia, but he had also picked up a quarrel with Bapaji of Dhrangadra. At last with the help of the Gackwad troops, under the command of Fatteh Sinh Rao, he succeeded in overrunning Khakhrechi, the town under Malia, and rendering it desolate.

Vaghji died in 1785, leaving behind him four sons, Hamirji, Jijoji, Devoji and Meheramanji. Hamirji, the eldest of them all, ascended the *gadi*. During his reign one of the merchants of Morbi was plundered by Jhalas near Than. Hamirji, obtaining the assistance of Junagarh troops, plundered the villages of Vastadi, Korda and Samadhiala under Wadhwan, and out of the booty, paid a handsome compensation to the injured merchant. Hamirji died in 1790, without issue. He was, therefore, succeeded by his brother, Jijoji, while his other brothers, Devoji and Veroji were granted the estates of Sojanpur and Deraru respectively. When Jam Jasaji of Nawanagar married the bride of Dhrangadra, Vajsur, the Khachar of Jasdan, gave him the village of Arkot as a wedding gift. Dado Khachar did not give his consent to such an arrangement, and he at once betook himself to outlawry against the Nawanagar authority. Meheraman Khawas, the pillar of Nawanagar, sent for the discontented Khachar and told him that Arkot would be restored to him only on one condition, that he should proceed against the Thakore of Morbi, with whom the Jam was then on hostile terms. The Khachar readily entered into the agreement, and marched against Morbi at the head of his veteran followers, strengthened by

reinforcements from the Nawanagar troops. He made several inroads upon the Morbi territory and laid waste several villages on three different occasions. While returning from his last venture, he was overtaken by the Morbi army near Chotila. A sharp scuffle ensued, in which Dado Khachar and his brave comrades were killed, 1792-93.

One Junoji, a Jadeja Rajput of Nagarvas, fortifying his own possession, was plundering the adjoining territory. Jiyoji, obtaining the help of the Peshwa, invaded his fortification in 1795, and, demolishing the stronghold of Nagarvas, he compelled Junoji to fly from it.

In 1800, Bhanji Ramji Mehta marched from Kutch, at the head of a large army and besieged Vavana, a sea-port town under Morbi. Jiyoji offered a bold resistance, and in 1801 the Kutch army was defeated and put to flight. The Thakore posted a military detachment for the protection of Vavana.

When Jiyoji saw that success did not attend his arms in the contest with the chief of Malia, he feigned peace and good will towards the Malia subjects and collected a large army. In 1801-2, he joined his troops with those of Dosaji, the Thakore of Malia, and commenced a predatory excursion on the adjoining territories. The combined armies once crossed the Run of Kutch and marched into Vagad. On their way back, loaded with a large booty, they pitched their camp near the hill-fort of Nagarvas. Both Jiyoji and Dosaji made up their minds to return with their troops to their respective territories on the following day. The wily Jiyoji, availing himself of this opportunity, invited Dosaji and his followers to a farewell entertainment. The Morbi troops treacherously fell upon the all confiding Miyanas. Many of them were slain in this sudden surprise. The survivors were burnt alive, while their leader, Dosaji, was carried to Morbi and thrown into confinement.

In 1803, Babaji Apaji arrived in Morbi to collect, on behalf of the Gaekwad, the *Jumabandhi* (tribute), which had fallen into arrears for the last six years. Jiyoji at first opposed him with his army, but at last he yielded and Babaji went back satisfied with the realization of only three years' outstandings. After a few days, Babaji invested the stronghold of Tankaria, but it proving impregnable, he harried the neighbouring territory of Morbi and proceeded to other places to assess the levy, called *Mulakgiri*.

In 1806, when Babaji, for the third time, arrived in Kathiawad at the head of the Gaekwad's army, he lay encamped in the vicinity of Morbi for

three months together. He sacked the neighbouring villages and oppressed the poor inhabitants. Jiyoji, who all the time had remained pent up in the citadel, was not able to do any thing to avert the catastrophe. The Miyanas of Malia, too, were unceasing in their constant forays against the helpless ryots of Morbi. Babaji determined upon putting a stop to these Miyana incursions, but, when he saw that all his efforts in that direction were fruitless, he gave up the idea. Many of the cultivators, out of disgust for the all pervading sense of insecurity, abandoned their petty holdings and fled to some other place of safety. Jiyoji, seeing his ryots thus abandoning their homesteads and fearing his whole territory would be rendered desolate, at once resolved to release Dosaji and thus put a stop to his hostility with the Miyanas of Malia. The Malia people, too, were by this time carrying on negotiations for the release of their leader, Dosaji. Babaji at last intervened and imposing several conditions on the Chief of Malia, got him liberated and sent him back to his own territory.

When Colonel Walker, the Resident of Baroda, arrived in Kathiawad in the year 1807, for the permanent settlement of the tribute to be annually paid by the various chiefs to the Peshwa and the Gaekwad, he had an occasion to repair to Morbi also, and it was from that date that Morbi came into contact with the British Government. The State of Morbi had then fallen into the deepest abyss of misery owing to the constant raids and plunders of the Miyanas of Malia, but the timely alliance with the Paramount Power averted these dire calamities and the State day by day regained its lost strength and prosperity. At the present day Morbi ranks as one of the most thriving and progressive States in Kathiawad. In 1807 Sensamalji, the Jadeja Chief of Jangi, rebelled against the Morbi authorities and seized Adhoi. The officers of Morbi posted at the Run, marched against him and recapturing Adhoi, put down the revolt.

In 1816, the Arab mercenaries, who had risen in a body against the Jam of Nawanagar, took shelter in the stronghold of Jodia, then in the possession of Sagram Khawas, the descendant of the famous Meheraman Khawas. A small detachment under the command of Col. East marched upon Jodia to suppress the recalcitrant insurgents. Sagram Khawas thereupon quitted his *Inami* villages of Jodia, Balambha and Amran, and besought the protection of the Chief of Morbi. Jiyoji, the reigning Thakore, conferred upon him the village of Kumpur. When the Jam and the Khawas were subsequently reconciled, Jiyoji exerted his influence in

favour of Sagram in regaining for him the *paragna* of Amran, which is, even to this day, in the enjoyment of his descendants.

In 1820-21, the Kolis of Kutch and other Sindhi free-booters began to carry on their plunders in the northern part of the Morbi territory. The Chief at once appealed to the Political Agent to put a stop to such lawlessness on the part of the Kutch subjects. The British officer wrote to the Rao of Kutch to keep a strict watch over these marauders, but he was not able to keep them under restraint. At last, the British Government posted a small party, under an English officer, at Ghantila on the border lines of Morbi and Dhrangadra. The Rao of Kutch was also compelled to pay by way of compensation the sum of 10,700 rupees, which was distributed among those who had more or less suffered from these predatory excursions.

In 1829, died Jiyoji, who had married no less than five Ranis, the Princess of Wankaner, the Jhali of Wadhwan, the Gohelani, the Princess of the celebrated house of Vadhel, the pirate Chief of Bet, and the Princess of the Suryavanshi family. He had by this last named wife two sons, Prithirajji and Mokaji. Jiyoji had, besides these sons, three daughters, who were all 'smothered in milk' (a common practice of female infanticide among the Rajputs of old) immediately after their birth. No event worth recording happened during Prithirajji's regime, save that he carried on his government with great economy and paid off some portion of the debt under which the State of Morbi was till then groaning.

In 1846, Prithirajji died and was succeeded by Rawoji. It was in his time that Adhoi was placed under the management of the Kutch Agency. Rawoji was a brave and wise ruler. He, for the first time, opened courts of justice in his territory for the proper administration of civil and criminal laws. He also introduced several reforms in the departments, connected with land revenue, agriculture and trade. The State treasury was replenished under his judicious management and control.

Rawoji died in 1870, leaving behind him two sons, Vaghji and Harbhamji. As they were very young at the time of their father's demise, the British Government appointed R. B. Shambhuprasad Lakshmilal and Jhunja Sakhidas, as Joint Administrators, to carry on the state affairs during the minority of the elder Prince, Vaghji. During the period of nine years that the Joint Administration lasted, Vaghji was sent to the Raj-Kumar College at Rajkot, where he received instruction in English, Gujarati

and other subjects. In 1877-78, he was sent in the company of Captain (now Col.) Humphrey on a tour to the various places of interest in India. As a very natural completion of the education received by him at the Raj Kumar College, on his return, he was associated as a Joint Administrator with R. B. Shambhuprasad, with whom he worked for one year. It was on the 1st of January 1879 that the sole administration of Morbi was entrusted to Vaghji.

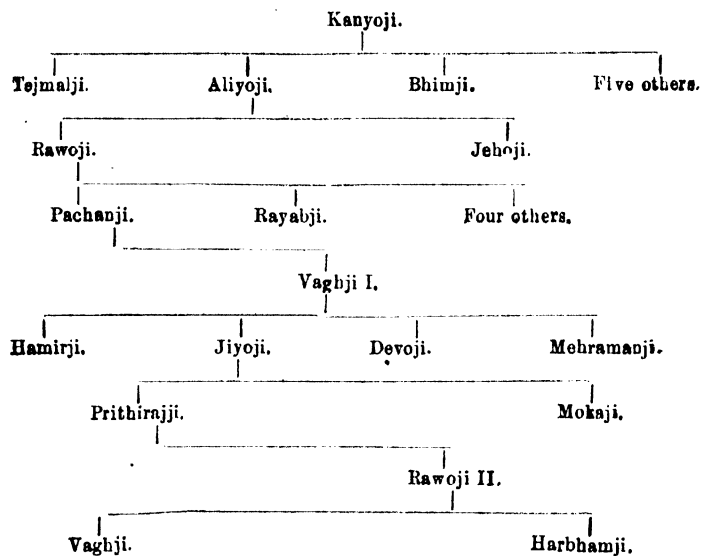
The Thakore Saheb, an enlightened youth, visited England and travelled over the greater part of the continent of Europe in 1883. His younger brother, Harbhamji, was also sent to England, where he joined the Cambridge University, and has now returned to his mother-land after receiving academic honors at the English University. He has been now appointed as the Administrator of the Bharatpur State in Rajputana.

In the month of February of the ever memorable year 1887, when Her Most Imperial Majesty Queen Victoria, Empress of India, completed the 50th year of her glorious reign, public rejoicings were celebrated throughout the length and breadth of this vast continent of India, the Thakore Saheb of Morbi also expressed his sense of devotion and loyalty to the British Crown by taking a very prominent part in the celebration of this Jubilee. In recognition of such devotion and loyalty the State of Morbi, which till then ranked among the second class States in Kathiawad, was promoted to the first class list. These Jubilee rejoicings were celebrated in England in the month of June of the same year, and Thakore Saheb Vaghji personally repaired to England to take part in the festivities. The Queen Empress, with her own hands, decorated this enlightened Indian Chief with the insignia of the Knight Commander of the Indian Empire.

Thakore Saheb Shri Vaghji K. C. I. E., has been granted the right of adoption and receives a salute of 11 guns.



Genealogical tree.



(The present Thakore Sabeab.)

Residence.—Morbi, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.



NARSINGHGARH.

Area.—720 sq. miles. Population.—113,985

Revenue.—400,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north, by the Rajgarh State ; on the east, by the State of Bhopal ; on the south, by the *jagirs* granted by Sindhia ; and on the west, by the Ujjain District under Gwalior.

As narrated in the annals of Rajgarh there flourished two brothers, Mohan Sinh and Paras Ram, of whom the elder, Mohan Sinh, assumed the title of Ravat of Rajgarh, while the younger, Paras Ram, was styled Diwan. The latter grew strong and powerful and claimed half the dominions. Eventually after a long contest with varying results, the two brothers distributed the whole territory among themselves. Mohan Sinh, being the elder of the two, kept to himself five villages more than those allotted to Paras Ram. Thus one whole estate was divided into two parts ; Rajgarh falling to the share of Ravat Mohan Sinh, and Diwan Paras Ram retaining the possession of Narsinghgarh. When the province of Malwa was overrun by the Marathas, the two brothers acknowledged the supremacy of the conquerors, the Ravat agreeing to pay tribute to Maharaja Sindhia and the Diwan to Maharaja Holkar. After the death of Paras Ram, the Narsinghgarh *gadi* was successively occupied by Motiji, Khuman Sinh, Achal Sinh, and Sobhag Sinh.

When the English entered Malwa in 1818, Diwan Sobhag Sinh sought the protection of the British arms. The annual tribute to Holkar was thenceforth paid through the English, who now began to interfere in the internal administration of Narsinghgarh. Eventually it was reduced to the status of a protected principality, owning allegiance to the British Crown.

An agreement was entered into between the Diwan of Narsinghgarh and Maharaja Holkar through the mediation of the British Government, by which the Diwan bound himself to pay to Holkar every year 85,000 rupees of Bhopal currency, while the former obtained from Sindhia 1,200 rupees of the Hali currency ; and under the terms of another agreement the Diwan got a further sum of 5,101 rupees from the Puwar chiefs of Dewas, in consideration of his claims to the Sarangpur *paragna*. The tribute agreed to be paid to Holkar is annually assessed through the Political Agent of Bhopal.

Diwan Sobhag Sinh was, after his death, succeeded by his son, Chain Sinh. He invaded the British camp at Sehere in 1827, and massacred the

garrison. The Supreme Government peremptorily ordered him to abandon his State to the British officials and himself live in another part of the country. Chain Singh disobeyed these orders and assumed a defiant attitude. The English thereupon despatched against him their contingent, stationed at Bhopal, supported by native troops. When the army reached Narsinghgarh, Chain Singh was engaged in worshipping his tutelary idol. Without being in the least disconcerted, he finished his *Puja* (worship) and complacently took his meals. Afterwards putting on the saffron robes, he and his comrades set out to oppose the invading army. In the battle that ensued, they were wounded by grape shots, but they all preferred courting death to ignominious flight from the field.

Hanwant Singh, his brother, ascended the *gadi* after the death of Chain Singh. He proved a capable ruler. He preserved peace and tranquillity throughout his territories and the State grew prosperous under him. The revenues were also considerably enhanced. In his old age he formed connection with the Maharaja of Jodhpur by giving the hand of his daughter in marriage to the heir-apparent to the Marwad throne. The rulers of Narsinghgarh were hitherto styled Diwans, but the British Government in recognition of the loyalty and devotion of Hanwant Singh conferred upon him and his successors the title of Raja on the 2nd May 1872. Hanwant Singh died on 31st March 1873, and as his only son, Bhawani Singh, had died during his lifetime, he was succeeded by his grand-son, Pratap Singh, who also proved an intelligent and beneficent ruler.

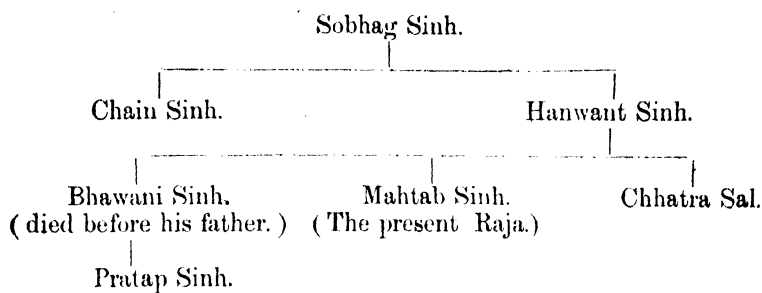
All transit duties on salt passing through the State were abolished in 1880. In consideration of this measure the Government agreed to supply 150 maunds of salt, which the State had to give to the Indore State annually. Next year, with all other payments which till then were made in kind, this annual supply of salt was also substituted by money payments. The annual payment in lieu of 150 maunds of salt was fixed at Rs. 618-12-0. All transit duties leviable within the State were abolished except that on opium. A contribution of 56,000 rupees was made by the State in 1884 towards the construction of the Biaora Sehore Road.

After reigning for 17 years, Pratap Singh died in April 1890, without issue, and was succeeded by his uncle, Mahtab Singh, the present Raja of Narsinghgarh.

The Raja of Narsinghgarh has been granted the right of adoption and enjoys a salute of 11 guns.

Genealogical tree.

Paras Ram, Motiji, Khuman Sinh, Achal Sinh and.—



Residence.—Narsinggarh, Bhopal Agency ; Central India.



PALANPUR.

Area.—3,177 sq. miles. Population.—274,864.

Revenue.—6,00,000 rupees.

Palanpur is bounded on the north by Sirohi and Marwad; on the south, by Kadi or the northern district of H. H. the Gackwad's territories; on the east, by Sirohi and the territory of the Rana of Danta; and on the west, by Tharad and Diodar Talukas.

Palanpur is said to have been known in early times by the name of Prahlad Patan, in honor of its founder, Prahlad Deo, the brother of Dhara Varsha, the Parmar King of Chandravati. It afterwards became desolate and remained in that state for several generations; at last in the year 57 B. C., when there flourished a Chauhan king, by the name of Palansi, he repopulated the town, restored it to its old prosperity and named it after him, Palanpur. Some say that it was named Palanpur, because it was founded by one Pal Parmar.

In 1303, after the battle of Abu, a dreadful famine ravaged the district, and the town of Palanpur was once more deserted and rendered desolate. It was repopled by Devda Chauhan, one of the descendants of Palansi, and his successors held and protected Palanpur and the neighbouring territories for several years.

In the middle of the 14th century, the Mahomedans from the north invaded these territories and driving away the Chauhans, took possession of Palanpur and Disa. The victors were headed by Malek Yusaf, a Pathan of the Afghan-Lohani stock, whose seat of government was at Jhalor in Marwad, towards the direction of Sirohi. Songarh was then the capital town of the brave and warlike Chauhan Chief, Kanad Deo. A fierce battle ensued between Kanad Deo and Malek Yusaf, in which the former was defeated and slain, and Songarh fell into the hands of the Moslem victor. Some chroniclers report that Songarh was conquered from Viram Deo; according to others, it was taken from Visal Deo, while several others assert that it was taken from Popanbai, the widowed Rani of Visal Deo.

Malek Yusaf reigned for several years and died in 1395. He was succeeded by his son, Malek Hussain, who added considerably to his dominions and, ruling for 45 years, died in 1440.

Malek Hussain left behind him three sons, Malek Salar, Malek Usman, and Malek Hetam Khan. The eldest, Salar, succeeded to the *gadi* and after a reign, extending over 21 years, died in 1461. He left behind him a son, named Budhan, but Usman, the uncle of the young prince, setting aside his claim, usurped the throne. Usman was generally known by the name of Malek Jabdal. He was fond of vain pomp and pageantry. In religious views he was inclined to the Medhaviya sect. He also reigned for 22 years, and died in 1483. He had no son and the succession again descended to his nephew, Budhan, the son of his elder brother, Salar. After a rule of 22 years and seven months, Malek Budhan died in the year 1505. He was succeeded by his son, Malek Mujahid Khan. Once while hunting in the *jungle*, he was waylaid by some of the followers of the Rao of Sirohi, who taking him prisoner, carried him to their capital, where he was kept under surveillance. The Moslem Chief was treated with all the consideration due to his high rank and was provided with all the luxuries that he needed. Malek Mina and Malek Piyara, the heads of the soldiery at Jhalor, harried the territory of Sirohi in revenge for the capture of their Chief, Mujahid.

These Sardars, once secretly entering the gates of Sirohi, found their Chief toying with a supremely beautiful concubine, within whose meshes he was inextricably entangled. They expostulated with him to dismiss that foul woman, but all their entreaties proving futile, they returned to Jhalor in great disappointment. After a few days the Jhaloris succeeded in seizing the person of Kunwar Madan, the son of the Rao of Sirohi, while he was also hunting in the adjoining forest. Threatening to make the Kunwar a Mussalman, they frightened the Rao so much that he immediately ordered Malek Mujahid Khan to be set at liberty and sent to Jhalor. As long as he remained at Sirohi, the government of Jhalor was carried on by his father's uncle, Malek Hetam Khan.

Malek Mujahid Khan died in 1509, and was succeeded by his brother, Malek Ali Sher. During his reign the Rathods of Mandor invaded Jhalor and the contest lasted for three days, at the end of which the Rathods were compelled to retire to their dominions unsuccessful.

Ali Sher, dying in 1525, was succeeded by his son, Sikandar Khan. He was also constantly annoyed by the neighbouring Hindu Rajas. In 1542, Mal Deo, the Rathod king of Jodhpur, marching upon Jhalor, took the ruling Chief prisoner and sacked the capital. In 1543, the Rajputs once again laid waste the town of Sachor and reduced it to submission.

Malek Sikandar Khan breathed his last in the year 1548. As he died without issue, he was succeeded by Gazni Khan, the son of Hetam Khan, the third son of Hussain, the son of Malek Yusaf, the founder of their dynasty, and he during the two years of his short reign recovered the glory and greatness of his family. He died in 1550 without any offspring. After some petty intrigues and contests for succession, the *gadi* of Jhalor was next occupied by his brother, Malek Khanji Khan. Jhalor was in his reign attacked and seized by Fatteh Khan, the Beluch chief of Radhanpur and Terwada. It remained in the hands of the Beluchs for 15 years, when in 1570, Malek Khanji Khan, obtaining the help of some of his Sardars, invaded the Beluch territory and regained his lost kingdom of Jhalor.

Malek Khanji Khan died in 1576, leaving behind him two sons, Gazni Khan and Phiroz Khan, of whom the elder, Gazni Khan, succeeded his father. Though he had a large army in his service, he was taken prisoner by Emperor Akbar's troops, but on being released in 1590, he was restored to the *gadi* of Jhalor. In 1597, the magnanimous Emperor bestowed upon him the title of 'Diwan,' which is enjoyed by his descendants to our own day.

Diwan Gazni Khan, dying in 1614, was succeeded by his son, Pahad Khan. He grossly murdered his mother, whereupon the enraged nobility caused the matricide to be trampled under the foot of an elephant. He was succeeded by his uncle, Phiroz Khan, otherwise known by the name of Kamal Khan. In 1654 his son, Mujahid Khan, was appointed by the Emperor of Delhi to the important post of the *fouzdar* of Patan.

Diwan Phiroz Khan, dying in 1674, was succeeded by his son, Mujahid Khan. He for the first time in 1697 imposed a capitation tax upon the Hindu inhabitants of Palanpur and Jhalor. In 1699, Maharaja Ajit Sinh of Jodhpur invaded and captured Jhalor. Mujahid Khan thereupon removed his capital to Palanpur and from that date his descendants have always continued to reign there.

Diwan Mujahid Khan went and settled at Palanpur in 1699, and died in the same year, without any issue. He was succeeded by his brother, Salim Khan, who, after reigning for one single year, died in 1700.

Salim Khan was succeeded by his son, Kamal Khan. He introduced many reforms in the State and worked zealously for the amelioration of the condition of the people. He was, however, cut off in the year 1708. He

was succeeded by his son, Phiroz Khan *alias* Gami Khan, on the Palanpur *masnad*. In 1716 Maharaja Ajit Singh of Jodhpur was appointed Suba of Gujarat by Farukhsiyar, the Emperor of Delhi. On his way to Gujarat from Jodhpur, he halted in the vicinity of Palanpur and seeing the rising power of its rulers, he made it a point to reduce its Diwan, Phiroz Khan, to subjection. Phiroz Khan, however, did his best to remain independent of the Viceroy of Gujarat, and from 1720 he began to devise schemes to gain his object ; but death overtook him in 1722, and all his machinations came to an end. He left behind him four sons, Karimdad Khan, Bahadur Khan, Kamal Khan and Pir Khan. A contest arose between Karimdad Khan and Kamal Khan for succession, and in the struggle the latter was killed, and Karimdad Khan ascended the *gadi*. He, dying in 1730, was succeeded by his son, Pahad Khan. During his reign the Marathas under Kanthaji Kadam and Malhar Rao Holkar invaded the north of Gujarat in 1736. They sacked Palanpur and retired on the payment of a tribute of a *lakh* of rupees. Diwan Pahad Khan reigned till 1744, when he died without issue. He was succeeded by his uncle, Bahadur Khan, in whose reign the Peshwa's general, Sadashiv Ramchandra, levied from Palanpur a tribute of 35,000 rupees.

Diwan Bahadur Khan died in 1768, after whom came to the throne his son, Salim Khan, who, dying in 1781, was succeeded by his son, Sher Khan. He treacherously murdered his brothers under the apprehension that they would offer resistance to his accession.

Diwan Sher Khan died childless in the year 1788. He had a sister named Sonbubu, who was married to the Nawab of Radhanpur. She instigated her son, Mubariz Khan, to assert his claim and eventually succeeded in bringing about his accession to the throne of Palanpur. The nobility could no longer brook the supremacy of one who had no right to assume the Diwanship of Palanpur. They rose in a body against Mubariz Khan, and, deposing him, seated one Samsher Khan, a near relative of the late Diwan, Sher Khan, upon the *gadi*. This Samsher Khan, however, turned out to be such a misconducted ruler that his subjects began to hate him, and rising into an open revolt, they at last dethroned him in the year 1794. After having unseated Samsher Khan from the throne of Palanpur, their choice fell upon one of his near relatives, named Phiroz Khan, who was installed upon the *gadi*. It was in his reign that Palanpur for the first time came in contact with the British Government in the year 1809. It was

then arranged that the Diwan of Palanpur should pay to H. H. the Gaekwad an yearly tribute of 50,001 rupees. Diwan Phiroz Khan was a mere tool in the hands of Sindhi Jamadars, who wielded supreme authority in the State. In 1812, while Phiroz Khan was one day hunting in the *jungle*, a party of the Jamadars' followers overtook him and killed him on the spot. His son, Fatteh Khan, and his partisans were made prisoners, while his uncle, Samsher Khan, who was the Jagirdar of Disa and Dhanera, was installed on the Palanpur throne. The usurper with the Jamadar began to rule with an iron rod. When the news of the reigning disorder reached the ears of H. H. the Gaekwad, he sent an army to Palanpur to set the matter right, and with the help of the British contingent the regal authority was restored to the rightful claimant, Fatteh Khan, the son of Phiroz Khan. Though Fatteh Khan was vested with the power of the Diwan, Samsher Khan was appointed his guardian. The Gaekwad garrisoned the place with his own troops for the preservation of peace and tranquillity. Samsher Khan, as the guardian of the new Diwan, carried on the administration. He was, however, a born-tyrant and his new administration was equally characterised by lawlessness and mismanagement. He alienated rich tracts of land and misappropriated the revenues of the State. The annual tribute to H. H. the Gaekwad was left unpaid for several years. The State was plunged into debts and the maladministration went on increasing to such an extent that the youthful Diwan was compelled to seek the intervention of the British authority (1816). Samsher Khan, apprehensive lest he would be deprived of all his growing power and greatness, objected to the interference of the English and strongly opposed them. At last when he found that his protest was of no avail, he left the capital and fled to some other place of security. On 28th November 1817, an arrangement was entered into between the Diwan and Captain Miles, the British Political officer, by which the former agreed to 'subsidise 250 horse, to receive an Agent from the Gaekwad in the confidence of the British Government and to follow his advice, to pay the tribute punctually and to protect no offenders against the British or the Gaekwad Governments.' The appointment of the Gaekwad's agent which commenced from this date was cancelled later on, in 1848.

Diwan Fatteh Khan died in 1854, leaving behind him four sons; Jorawar Khan, Ahmud Khan, Usman Khan and Sikandar Khan. Of these, the eldest, Jorawar Khan, succeeded his father to the throne of Palanpur. In consideration of the very valuable services rendered by the Diwan

during the troublous times of the great Indian Mutiny in 1857, the British Government conferred upon him, in 1862, a *sanad*, authorizing him and his successors to adopt an heir in accordance with the Mahomedan Law, in the absence of a natural born one, to the Palanpur *gadi*, without the payment of any succession duty. In addition to this, the distinguished title of 'His Excellency' was bestowed upon him and his successors.

Diwan Jorawar Khan breathed his last on the 28th of August 1878, and was succeeded by Sher Mahmud Khan, the present Diwan of Palanpur. In the memorable year of 1887, H. E. the Diwan of Palanpur took a prominent part in the celebration of the Jubilee rejoicings in his State. In commemoration of that happy event the Diwan Saheb caused a stately building to be erected on the Station Road and named it the Victoria Jubilee Institute. It has since been used as a State Library. He for the embellishment of his capital spent large sums of money in erecting works of public utility, such as the Legeyh Market and school houses for boys and girls.

In 1890 an agreement was come to between the Diwan and the Government. The State was released from the obligation of maintaining the Palanpur levy ; but it had to maintain an efficient police force and establishment of magistrates. The cost of keeping the Political Superintendent payable by the State was raised to 9000 rupees.

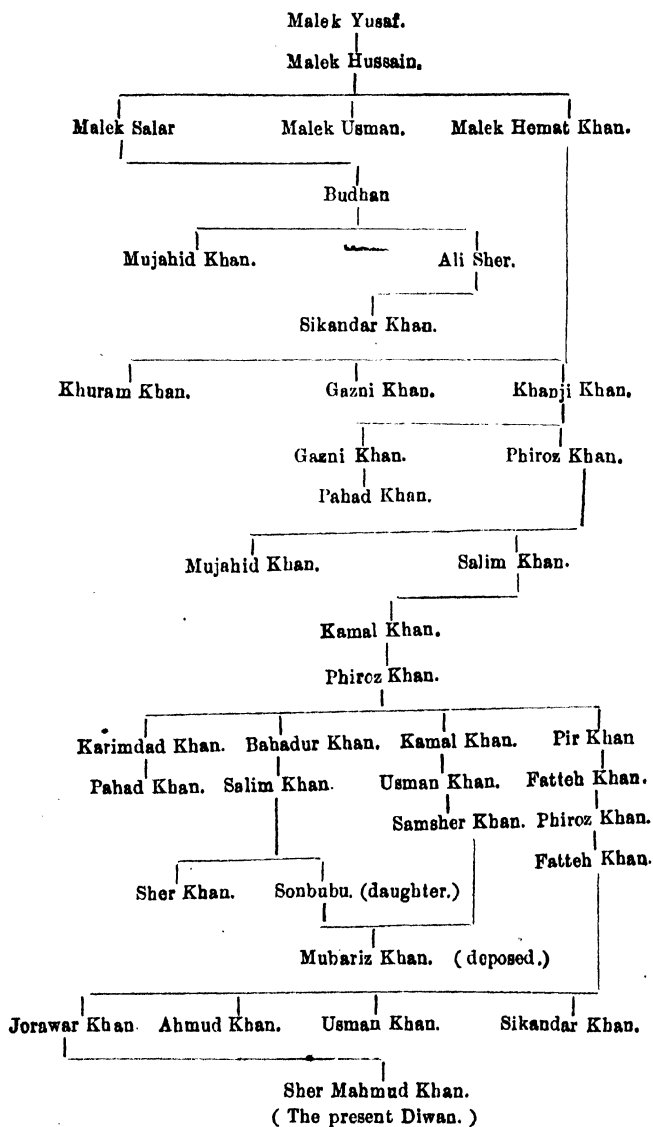
The British Government, pleased with his liberal and progressive administration, ennobled him with the title of K. C. I. E. on the New year's day in 1893. The investiture ceremony was performed on the 2nd of January 1893 at Ahmedabad by His Excellency Lord Harris, the Governor of Bombay, in a Grand Darbar, attended by the Rajas and Chiefs of the Rewa Kantha, Mahi Kantha, Palanpur and Surat Agencies, as also by European and Native official and non-official gentry from the different parts of the Presidency.

His Excellency Diwan Sher Mahmud Khan K. C. I. E. is entitled to a salute of 11 guns and as a first class chief, enjoys full civil and criminal powers,



THE HIND RAJASTHAN.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Palanpur, Palanpur Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

PORBANDAR.

Area.—636 sq. miles. Population.—85,785.

Revenue.—5,50,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the territories of the Nawanagar State; on the east, by those of the Junagarh State; and on the south and west, by the Arabian Sea.

The rulers of Porbandar are Jethwa Rajputs, who claim to belong to the oldest royal family in Kathiawad. They were the first to migrate into the peninsula. Only the coast line was then inhabited and so far back as 746, when Anhilwara was founded by the illustrious Van Raj, there was not a single hamlet all around, subject to the Chavada rule, which was more than fifteen miles distant from the waters of the sea. Though the seat of the Chavada government was at Dwarka, the rulers of Bet Shankhodwara, Sikotra, Miyani, Diu, Somnath Patan, Mahuva, Katarpur and others owned allegiance to it. The remaining portion was a vast wilderness, an abode of ferocious and savage animals. Only here and there on the sea-coast, tracts of land were broken by the plough. The villages in the interior of the province at the present day exhibit no signs of great antiquity, though those within the Gir Forest appear to have been founded about the year 1300 of the Samvat era.

Of the Rajput tribes inhabiting Kathiawad, the Chavadas, the Chudasamas and Jethwas claim to be the first to settle in the province. Chronologically speaking the Jethwas were the last who migrated into the country, not later than the year 900. According to the bardic chronicles the parentage of the rulers of Porbandar may be traced to Hanuman. Between the divine progenitor and the present Rana some writers interpose no less than one thousand and forty-eight members in the direct male line, while according to others there have intervened only 178 men in the pedigree. The Jethwas must have settled in the peninsula in the 10th century of the Christian era. The bards make Shrinagar, near Porbandar, their earliest capital but there are reasons to believe that their first seat of government was at Mörbi. They then advanced along the coast line, and took possession of Bet and Dwarka. It has not yet been ascertained whether the villages were long retained in their possession; yet this much is certain that they repaired to Nagnah, near Nawanagar, and to the isles of Pirotan and Ajada, and stayed there for some time. Thence they proceeded to Miyani and Shrinagar and at last they permanently

fixed their residence at Ghumli in Barda. As for the history of the ancient Ranas of Porbandar, a mere mythological narrative has come down to us, which we attempt to give below. The first of the Jethwa rulers was Makardhvaj, the son of Hanuman. He is said to have established his seat of government at Shrinagar, a town, a few miles to the north-west of Porbandar. It is just possible that these Jethwas before their exodus to this peninsula may have resided at Shrinagar in Kashmir, or any other place of the same name, and the name of their dear old father-land may have been given to their new home.

Of the origin of the Jethwas the bards say, that when Hanuman took his long jump and went to Lanka across the ocean, a drop of his perspiration fell into the waters of the sea and was swallowed by a female crocodile; she became pregnant and gave birth to the founder of the race, Makardhvaj. It was he who kept a watch over the mansion of Ahi Ravan, when Hanuman went over to him to procure the liberation of Rama and Lakshaman. When Rama returned from Lanka after his conquest, he conferred upon Makardhvaj the kingdom of Shrinagar, with 7200 villages attached to it. Makardhvaj was succeeded by Moradhvaj, from whom Morbi derived its name. There flourished Tamardhvaj, Nildhvaj and Hansdhvaj in due succession. Hansadhvaj celebrated a sacrifice at Pasthar, built a reservoir, called the Surajvan, and erected a temple in honour of Tapkeshwar Mahadeva. Jethidhvaj and Jambudhvaj succeeded Hansdhvaj. Sansmakumar was the next to wear the crown. From that time the distinctive epithet of 'Dhvaj,' which had always been added to the names of the preceding monarchs, was supplanted by the word 'Kumar'. After Sansmakumar, the *gadi* devolved successively on Manvahankumar, Kankamkumar, Arakkumar, Sangramkumar, Arjan-kumar, Sanghkumar, Karankumar, Sadharmakumar, Indrajitkumar and Shilkumar. Of these the last mentioned sovereign founded the village of Ghumli, constructed three reservoirs of water, Kalobha, Kuchholu and Hujan on the Abapura mount. He also built a temple dedicated to Kameshwar.

Varahakumar, who mounted the *gadi* had a brother, Gopkumar, from whom is derived the name of the Gop hills. He erected a fortress on one of those hills and reared a temple in honour of God Siva, named after him Gopnath Mahadev. Champsenkumar, Vajdekumar and Phulkumar ascended the *gadi* one after another. A temple dedicated to the god Sun was erected by the last named prince at Shrinagar. His younger son,

Bhim Dev, built a fortress near Ranpur, and called it Bhimkot. Asvasen Kumar and Prathu Kumar figure next on the roll of the Porbandar Ranas. This Prathu Kumar is credited with having gallantly repulsed an assault led by the Vaghelas of Morbi. Adit Kumar, Shangan Kumar, Bhan Kumar, Vikaji Kumar, Bakhuji Kumar, Ramsinhji Kumar, Meh Kumar and Mep Kumar are the sovereigns enumerated next in the family pedigree. Autra Kumar was the younger son of Mep Kumar; he had once been on a pilgrimage to the shrine of Bhutnath in the vicinity of the Vijfad hills, situate in Barda. An unfortunate accident by the fall of lightning resulted in the death of this prince with 1200 of his comrades. After Mep Kumar the *gadi* of Porbandar was occupied by a series of princes,* of whom absolutely nothing is known till we come to the name of Jethiji, the eponym of the tribe, known as the Jethwas.

Jethiji was succeeded by Viranji, Vikuji and Govindji. Govindji had two brothers, Nanoji and Dhakoji, at Morbi, who built a temple to the god Jadeshvar, six miles from Vankaner, and also constructed a step-well at Tankara, named Dhakovav. The *gadi* was then occupied by Nagji and Champsenji. Kanaksen of Sambhar (Ajmere) once invited his contemporary rulers on the occasion of the marriage of his daughter, Hansa Kunvari, in order that she might select one out of those who responded to the call. Among those who attended the *Swayamvara* were to be seen Champsenji of Porbandar, Avalsen Chavada of Sikotar Bet, Sodha Sultanji of Parkar, Rah Chudachandra of Junagarh and others. The princess' choice fell on the gallant Champsen, whose neck the beauteous bride decorated with the nuptial wreath. Aditji Jethwa succeeded Champsenji to the throne. His brother rose against him and betook himself to outlawry and built a fortress, called after him Bhimkot, in Barda, where he took up his residence.

Meheji, Nagji, Bhanji, Shivji, Ramdeji, Bakhuji, Ranoji and Sangji are the names which appear after Aditji on the list of the Porbandar kings. It is said that the goddess, Harshad, apprised Sangji in his dream of the 40,000 Vaghelas, marching against Morbi and exhorted him to be

* The names of these princes are Prathi Kumar, Gang Kumar, Bal Kumar, Akheraj Kumar, Bakhal Kumar, Sursena Kumar, Ugrajit Kumar, Aditji Kumar, Bharmal Kumar, Vanvir Kumar, Viram Kumar, Randhaval Kumar, Ratan Kumar, Sugrasen Kumar, Kesarji Kumar, Mep Kumar, Vajeraj Kumar, Meji Kumar, Vika Kumar, Bakhal Kumar, Agrasen Kumar, Jasdhul Kumar, and Randhirji Kumar. Next to him come in succession Randhaval Rajan, Gopal Rajan, Rang-ohelji Rajan, Viramde Rajan, Vikunji Rajan, Randeji Rajan, Aditji Rajan, Rangohelji Rajan, Randhaval Rajan, Dhundamal Rajan, Abhykrat Rajan and

repared for its defence. He sent an advance guard under his brother Iakan Jethwa, and soon after followed in person with the necessary reinforcements. Makan proceeded as far as Thala on the borders of the Lun to the north-east of Dhrangadra, where he took up his stand for the coming encounter. The Vaghela troops came up and a bloody battle ensued. For a time the result was indecisive, but the approach of Sangji with the reinforcements decided it in favour of the Jethwas. During the encounter, Sangji was wounded and prince Kanji was taken prisoner; but through the intercession of Akheraj of Sirohi, Kanaksen Chavada and Jamir Jadav, he was soon after liberated. The proud distinction of Rana which was heretofore borne by the Vaghelas was transferred to Sangji and his descendants, and the treaty which was concluded between the rival actions was cemented by the union of the Jethwa prince with the Vagheli princess. In commemoration of this battle, the place where it was fought has since been known by the name of the Jethwa hill.

Sangji was succeeded in due turn by Bhanji and Shiyaji, the last of whom transferred his capital from Shrinagar to Ghumli. The local bards have recorded the chivalrous deeds of his son, Halaman, in a tale which is still told in Kathiawad :—Rajsinh Parmar, the Thakore of Manamora and Balambha, had a fair daughter, named Son. As she reached the age when fancy turns to thoughts of love, she devised a novel mode of selecting her husband. She wrote the first line of a couplet and sent the paper to the courts of all the princes, challenging them to supply the next line, and promising her hand in marriage to the successful competitor. Halaman had poetic genius and he succeeded in supplying the second half of the proposed couplet. The princess, Son, set out to meet the lord of her heart. As she approached Ghumli, Shiyaji, the father of the bridegroom, happened to see her. Enamoured of her beauty, he determined to have her for his own spouse. He represented to her that it was he who had fulfilled the stipulated condition and had won her hand, but Son was a woman of great sagacity, and she at once saw through the whole trick. She then proposed a new test to gauge his poetical ingenuity and set him a fresh couplet. The king was taken aback, but was soon released from

Nasavjit Rajenajan. After the last named, Nasavjit Rajan, come Randhaval Maharaj, Gopalji Maharaj, Ranghel Maharaj, Aditji Maharaj, Bakhulji Maharaj, Sangji Maharaj, Ramdeji Maharaj, Randhavalji Maharaj, Varjangji Maharaj, Sandhusen Maharaj, Vajerajji Maharaj, Melagdev Maharaj, Bakhuji Maharaj, Vajseinbji Maharaj, Jethiji Maharaj, Kumbhoji Maharaj, Nagji Maharaj, Vakmayat Maharaj, Nagujanji Maharaj, Bhanji Maharaj, Halamanji Maharaj, Randhaval Maharaj, Bhanji Maharaj, Ramdeji Maharaj, Sartaoji Maharaj, Khetoji Maharaj, Bhanji Maharaj and Jethiji.

this predicament by his son, who supplied the wanting line and carried away the fair prize. The father, however, was not a man to sit silent over his discomfiture. He resolved to redeem by force of arms what he had lost through want of poetic genius. He availed himself of the opportunity when Halaman was out on a hunting excursion within 10 days of the marriage. The Chief forcibly carried Son away to his own seraglio and placed a guard at the palace of his son, and, on his return home, ostracised him from his dominions. Halaman at first went to Kutch and thence proceeded to Sindh. There he was cordially received by the ruling chief, who assigned to him the estate of Dobadha for his maintenance. He gradually extended his domains and took the hand of Devaldevi in marriage. The issue of this marriage were two sons, Chandrasinhji and Devisinhji. Seven years after his banishment, his father, Shiyaji, died at Ghumli. Released from her forced confinement, Son roamed, from place to place, in search of the object of her first passion, and at last reached Sindh. But the anticipated pleasure from reunion was at once converted into gloom and misery. Her lord, bitten by a poisonous snake, was then lying on his death-bed. She thought that her stars were against her and sat shedding tears over the prostrate frame of her departing lord. But these tears and lamentations were not altogether unavailing. She at last got the reward of her devotion and affection. A saint happened to pass by, who knew the snake charm, and by the force of that spell he checked the further progress of the deadly poison. He muttered the *mantra* several times. The trial succeeded and Halaman's life was saved. He left Devaldevi at her father's home and accompanied his faithful Son back to Ghumli, where he reigned for 10 years. Halaman was succeeded by Bhanji, Mcheji, Nagji, Vikuji and Nagbhanji. The last named prince entrusted the management of the State to his eldest son, Vikiaji, and retired in company with his consort, Son, a Kathiawadi princess, to Preh Patan. There a son, Nagarjuna, was born to them and when he grew up, his mother requested the king to assign that estate to him. This the king refused to do, whereupon she left him and repaired to her father's home at Talaja. A short time after, a terrible shock of earthquake brought Preh Patan to the ground, and buried it under a heap of *debris*. On its ruins, a new city was founded which received the name of Dhank. Twelve years after the destruction of Preh Patan, Nagarjuna returned from Talaja to Dhank, where he passed the rest of his life. Of the many exploits that are narrated of him the most heroic was that in which he defeated the celebra-

ted Salivahan, but the struggle thus signalized, ended at last in the defeat and death of Nagarjuna.

Rana Vikiaji was succeeded by Khetuji, who, to preserve the memory of his father fresh among his subjects, built a *vav* (step-well) and called it after him, Vikia Vav. He also built a temple on the Revat hill in Barda and dedicated it to Mahadev, giving it the name of Udkeshvar.

Ranoji, Khimoji, Vikmajitji, Khetuji, Ramdevji, Sartanji, Bakuji and Ranoji were the successors of Khetuji on the *gadi* of Ghumi. Ranoji caused a tank, Ranasar, to be excavated near Modhpur, and a temple to be dedicated to the God Shiva on the top of the hills of Morchopna. Bhanji, Nagji, Wakuji, Bhanji, Viramji, Khimkanji, Nagji, Shiguji, Aditji, Hariadji, Bakuji, Sartanji, Bhanji, Wikuji, Kanji, Vanvirji, Nagjanji, Bhanji, Hariadji and Sangji successively sat on the *gadi* after Ranoji. Of these, the last named Sangji came to the throne in 1120 and ruled for about 30 years. He assigned to his younger brother the *jagir* of Hathla, which at the present day is subject to the Nawanagar State. In about 1150 Ranoji succeeded Sangji but as he was removed by the merciless hand of death in the very year of his accession, his brother, Nagji, next occupied the cushion. On his death in 1155, Bharmalji ascended the *gadi*. He died in 1172. Bhanji next ruled till his death in 1179 and Mehji till 1190. His successor, Nagji, dying in 1193, was succeeded by Vikioji. The dry narrative of the ascension and death of one prince after another is relieved by one single historical incident of interest. Kutab-ud-Din, taking hold of Morbi, drove the Jethwas away from it. The Rana died in 1220. Vajsiji, his successor, enjoyed his rule, extending over 25 years, till his death in 1245. Bhojrajji ruled till 1270; Ramdeji till 1291; Ranoji till 1302 and Nagji till 1307. Bhanji came to the throne in 1307. His contemporary ruler at the island of Shankhodvar was Dudanshi Vadhel, who was blessed with no progeny. On consulting a Brahmin he was told that he was destined to have only a daughter. In course of time the promised daughter was born, but she had two teeth from her very birth. This led him again to resort to a *Joshi* (astrologer) who told him that the daughter was born at an inauspicious juncture; and that if she remained in his house for three nights she was sure to bring down ruin upon the city and the Vadhel family. To obviate this great calamity, the new born babe was packed up in a small box and left drifting on the waters of the adjoining creek. The box was tossed against by the waves till it gained

the port of Miyani, where Prabhat Chavada was then holding the reins of government. It was found by a copper-smith, who took it to his place and opened it. To his great surprise he found in it a living infant. As the copper-smith had no offspring, he brought her up as his own daughter with great fondness and affection. As day after day went by Son, for that was the name of the princess, waxed more and more fascinating. Once it so happened that she was seen by Prabhat Chavada, who was at once seized by an unconquerable passion for her. He thereupon sent for the copper-smith and entreated him to give him his daughter in marriage. He flatly refused to comply with the wishes of his prince; but finding him inexorable, he left the place with Son the very night for Ghumli, where he built a house and settled there permanently. Son, who all the while took him for his real father, entreated him not to keep her confined within the four corners of his house, but give her some scope to see the world abroad. Bhanji Jethwa had married the sister of Miat Babria, the Thakore of Than-Kundolna. Babria had a son, named Rakhayat, who happened at this time to arrive at Ghumli on a visit to his aunt. On the recommendation of his aunt he expressed his willingness to marry Son, whom he saw and admired. The interest of Son, too, was keenly excited by the many tales of Rakhayat's adventures, which she had so frequently heard. The marriage was no sooner celebrated than tidings were received that the enemy had driven away the cattle belonging to the people of Ghumli. In spite of the earnest entreaties of Son, Rakhayat pursued the enemy and redeemed the cattle. On his way back three horsemen of the enemy's camp, who were chasing him came up within sight on the outskirts of Bhanvar; he spurred on his horse towards the village, but unfortunately his head got entangled in the thick branches, while his body was hung up dangling to the ground. In the mean time, the enemy came up and despatched him at the point of their spears. When the sad intelligence reached Son, she was heart-broken and prepared to mount the pyre and accompany her dear lord to the next world; but charmed by her beauty, Bhan, the Jethwa Chief, prevented her from carrying out her design. With great importunity, he requested her to accept him as her future husband. Son, whose determination was inflexible, took refuge with the sacred Brahmins. The Jethwa desisted not and called upon the Brahmins to give her up. When they refused to do so he attacked their sanctuary, and a free fight ensued in which though hundreds of Brahmins lost their lives, Son was gallantly saved from his

clutches. On the morrow she became *sati* with the head of her deceased lord in her lap. Before mounting the pile she pronounced a dreadful curse against the Jethwa house and hurled an imprecation that Ghumli would be soon destroyed and never again re-peopled. After her death the copper-smith and the Brahmins built a temple outside the city to perpetuate the memory of this devoted woman which is still known as Son Dungari.

After the lapse of a few years, Jam Unad came at the head of a large army and besieged the city. The city held out long and the first attack was repulsed. In 1313, a second attempt upon the city was made by Jam Bamanioji and he succeeded in rendering it desolate. The Jethwa chief left it precipitately and reached Ranpur, where he founded a new principality. Bhanji died at Ranpur in 1360. He was succeeded by his son, Jasudhulji, who tried his utmost to preserve peace within his dominions. But the northern frontier could not be well protected against the repeated inroads of the Sindhis. When he died in 1392 his son, Ranoji, came to the throne. He was unable to maintain order within his territory on account of the all absorbing danger from Sindh and the threatened invasions from other chiefs. With the exception of the port of Nagnah, which belonged to the junior branch, the chiefdom of the Jethwas then attained its narrow limits, which have been kept up to our own day. Prince Sangji ascended the throne in 1420. Like his predecessors, he followed the policy of preserving what was already achieved. In 1461, upon his death, Bhanji sat on the *gadi*. He had a troublesome time of it, for Mahmud Begara, the Shah of Gujarat, then invaded Junagarh, when Rah Mandalik, the last of the Chudasamas, was reigning there and he conquered the hill fort of Girnar. He passed several years in Sorath and levied tributes from numerous minor chieftains of Kathiawad.

Rana Bhanji died in 1492, whereupon his son, Ranoji VII, ascended the throne. After an uneventful reign of 35 years, he quietly passed away, without any issue.

His nephew, Khimoji II, next occupied the *gadi*. During Khimoji's reign, some of his territories were encroached upon by the Jadejas, who, under the leadership of Jam Raol, continued their attacks and seizing the seaport town of Nagnah, founded in its vicinity the town of Nawanagar, and established their seat of government there, in 1539. In 1550, Rana Khimoji expired and Ramdeji IV, was called upon to fill the

Ranpur gadi. It was the misfortune of this prince that he was connected through his mother with the ever greedy Jam. His cruel uncle, Jam Sataji, was bent upon tearing the diadem off the brow of his young nephew. He invited him to Nawanagar, but for sometime Ramdeji refused to accept the invitation. The persuasive eloquence of Charan Kavidas Lango was at last successful in chasing away the fears of the unconfiding prince. Ramdeji proceeded to Nawanagar, where Jam Sataji treacherously got him murdered and sent an army to take possession of Ranpur in 1574.

Prince Bhanji immediately after this catastrophe fled from Ranpur, and staying at Natha-Timbi for fifteen days, passed three months and a half at Sodhana. Thence he lay concealed in the garden of Travada, for fifteen days, but no longer able to hold out against the pangs of hunger, he was cut off by a miserable and premature death on the sixteenth day. The widowed queen, Kalabai, with Prince Khimoji and others, took refuge at Chhanya. From that time Chhanya became the capital of the Jethwas.

Under these circumstances the infant prince, Khimoji, was placed on the *gadi*, but the management of the State rested with the Queen Dowager, Kalabai. She was a woman of great resources and fortitude. Though Jam Sataji, the most powerful and the deadliest of the foes of the Jethwas, succeeded in conquering their dominions as far as the creek of Bokhirah, she did not lose her heart. She induced the Mers and the Rabaris, who then resided at Chhanya, with promises of rewards, to support her cause. She enlisted them in her service and formed out of them a splendid army. Taking advantage of the confusion into which the Jam had been thrown by his defeat, on the confines of Dhrol at the hands of the Mughals, she regained her lost territories as far as Ranpur. Khimoji assigned in *giras* the estate of Morana to his younger brother, Bhojrajji, and Rojhdhu to Jethiji.

Rana Khimoji died in 1626, leaving behind him two sons, Vikmatji II and Karanji, of whom the former came to the throne, while to the latter was assigned the village of Pandavadar.

Rana Vikmatji died in 1671, and was succeeded by Sultanji. When he saw that the Mughal Government paid very little attention to the affairs in Sorath, and that as Maharaja Jaswant Sinh of Jodhpur was then the viceroy of Gujarat, no encroachment, however wrongful, made by a Hindu *Zamindar*, in such a distant part of the country, would be taken

notice of, he erected a stronghold near Porbandar, then in the hands of the Mughals, and claimed it as his own. He, however, continued to reside at Chhanya, where he died in 1699. He had four sons, Bhanji, Sagramji, Hajoji and Kumbhoji; of them the eldest, Bhanji, occupied the throne, while his brothers, Sagramji, Hajoji and Kumbhoji received in appanage Sisali, Bardi, Vachhodu and Lavariyu respectively. Bhanji, like his father, resided at Chhanya, though he continued to press his claims to Porbandar. He availed himself of the opportunities offered by the frequent raids of the Marathas on Gujarat, the revolt of Durga Das Rathod and the absence of Emperor Aurangzeb, who was then engaged in the Deccan. He forcibly took possession of Porbandar and began to hold it on his own account.

In 1709, Rana Bhanji breathed his last and Khimoji mounted the vacant *gadi*. At that time the civil war of succession between the sons of Aurangzeb, the repeated incursions of the Marathas and the internecine strife among the Mahomedan nobles during the short rule of Ferukhsiyar yielded ample facilities to Khimoji to strengthen his hold on Porbandar. In 1726, he bribed the Desais of Mangrol and obtained possession of the fortress of Madhavpur. Next year when the Mughal viceroy, Sher Buland Khan, attacked Chhanya, Khimoji made preparations to escape by the sea-route; but shortly after he appeased the greed of the assailant by paying him a tribute of 40,000 rupees.

* When Rana Khimoji died in 1728, he had two sons, Vikmatji and Jijibhai. Vikmatji III., ascended the throne, while his younger brother was given the estate of Kindarkheda and Untada. But as Jijibhai died without issue, the estate was resumed by the reigning chief. Kutiana was conquered from the Mahomedans in 1749. Vikmatji died in 1757. His son, Sultanji, succeeded him. Immediately after his accession, Mohobat Khan, the Nawab of Junagarh, reconquered Kutiana in 1759. Shekh Mian of Mangrol stormed Navibandar in 1774; but he was repulsed by Sultanji, aided by the Jadeja chief, Kumbhoji of Gondal. In 1778, he built the fortress of Bethali on the frontiers of the Nawanagar State. One day a bard asked permission to visit the fortress but, being refused, he at once went to Jam Jasaji in the guise of a woman. When he was asked why he did so, he replied that as his master was but a woman, he, his servant, was also forced to wear a woman's attire. On further inquiries he repeated the following distich.*

Utha Ajmalana, Bethali Kara Bhuko, Rana Vasavase Ghumli Jam mageh, tunko.)

“ Rise, oh Scion of Ajmala ! destroy Bethali, should the Rano people Ghumli Jam should have a share.”

The anger of the Jam being thus aroused, he sent his Diwan, Meheraman Khawas, against Bethali. When the Rana was informed of the siege he induced Diwan Amarji of Junagarh to come to his help. But when the Diwan succeeded in extorting favourable terms from Nawanagar, the armies were withdrawn on condition of his razing the fortress to the ground ; thus a treaty was at last concluded.

In 1782, Sultanji, with the help of Jadeja Kumbhoji of Gondal, attacked and plundered Kutiana, but before they could effect an entry into the city, Diwan Amarji came up to its relief and drove them away. In 1785, the Rana removed his court to Porbandar, which continues to be their capital up to the present day. When Sangji fell in a bloody encounter, at Hati Malia, between Rai Jadavsinh of Chorvad and Aliyaji in 1787, Rana Sultanji, who was related to Sangji, prevailed upon his kinsmen and drawing them to his own side, he himself undertook to pay off the sepoys of the Chorvad army. He thereupon took possession of the town and fort of Chorvad. From that place by a night-sally he got possession of the town and harbour of Verawal.

Nawab Hamid Khan regained from the Rana in 1789 Chorvad and Verawal, and he also plundered his territory. At the same time, Govindji Diwan, the Suba of Kutiana, invested the village of Kandorna, which belonged to the Rana. Surrounded by difficulties and dangers on all sides, he was forced to sue for peace. At length, on his consenting to give a large *nazarana* and pay a heavy fine to the Nawab, a treaty was signed between the two powers.

In 1799, Kalian Seth, the Diwan of Junagarh, raised a formidable revolt and seized Kutiana, whence he proceeded to plunder the Rana's territory. At that time the famous Diwan, Ranchhodji, was in the service of Porbandar. He was ordered to march against the rebel at the head of a detachment under his command. He defeated the Seth and succeeded in capturing several guns, belonging to the enemy. Prince Haloji began to conduct the affairs of the State in the name of his father, in 1804 ; but the form of address observed in writing continued to be ‘ Sultanji the Rana, and Haloji the administrator’. He had married eight wives (1) Dhanba, daughter of the Thakore of Beraja, under Nawanagar ; (2) Ambaji, daughter of

Raj Gajsinhji of Halvad. (3) Fuliba, a Waghela princess of Vetia; (4) Banjiba, daughter of Jhala Vajesinhji of Chuda; (5) Hakuba, daughter of Raizadah of Chorvad; (6) Banjiba, daughter of Akherajji of Bhavnagar; (7) Sonba, a Jadeja princess of Hadiana; and (8) Devkunwarba, the daughter of Sagramji, the Jadeja Thakore of Kotda-Sangani. Prince Haloji was the son of Dhanba of Beraja.

The Rana had engaged the services of several Makranis, including Jamadar Murad Khan, Fakir Mahmud and others, for the protection of the strong-hold of Kandorna. They, however, sold the fortress to Jam Jasaji in 1807. At that time the Diwan of the Gaekwad and Colonel Walker, the Resident of Baroda, came there to raise the *Mulakgiri*. The Rana complained to them about the conduct of Kalian Seth. Thereupon they ordered the restoration of Kandorna to the Rana, with which, however, the Seth failed to comply. They then sent a detachment to seize the possession of it and on the Rana's paying a *nazzar* of 2000 rupees it was handed over to him on 5th December 1807. On the 16th December the sum of the tribute payable to the Gaekwad was fixed for ever. In the month of January of the year 1808, a treaty was signed with Porbandar, by which the Rana bound himself not to commit any piracy and to levy no dues on wrecks of ships abandoned as unseaworthy.

Prince Haloji had six Ranis, (1) Banjiba, the daughter of Desalji, a Jadeja Thakore of Bamania, (2) Baiba, the daughter of Jadeja Sangaji of Bhanvad, (3) Jijiba, the daughter of Jadeja Aliaji of Hadiana; (4) Takhatba, the daughter of Kamaji, a Waghela King of Koth; (5) Adiba, the daughter of Khumansinhji, a Chavada Thakore of Varsoda and (6) Baijiba, the daughter of Khimaji, a Gohel Thakore of Lathi.

Haloji had two sons, Prithirajji and Ramsinhji; the elder son was not on good terms with his father, and consequently he occupied Chhanya, the ancient capital. Haloji asked the help of the British Government, who taking possession of it, restored it to him and took the prince prisoner. For many years the tribute to the Gaekwad was not paid up; for this purpose a loan of 50,000 rupees was made by the British Government on the security of half the revenues of Porbandar being assigned over to them. This arrangement was made on the 5th of September 1809, by virtue of which Porbandar was placed under the British protectorate and a rank and file of 100 men, under an English Captain, was posted there for ready assistance. They were, however, recalled at the request of the Rana.

in 1853. The Government also relinquished their claim to half the revenues of the State on payment of 15,000 rupees every year.

The father and the son died at an interval of a single year; the father, Sultanji, surviving the son, who passed away in 1812. The grandson, Prithirajji, therefore assumed the name of Khimoji and ascended the throne in 1813. He built a temple in honour of the god Siva, half a mile from the sea-shore, near Kunchadi and called it Khimeshvar. He married three wives, of whom one was Naniba, the daughter of Bavoji of Dhank, and the other two were Rupaliba, the daughter of Jhala Hathiji of Chuda, and Jijiba, the daughter of Gohel Anabhai of Dihor.

Upon the death of Rana Khimoji in 1831, Prince Bhojrajji, the son of Rupaliba of Chuda, styling himself Vikmatji, after the fashion prevalent in the family, came to the throne. As he was but eight years old at the time, his mother began to administer the affairs of the State on his behalf. Her administration proved as successful as it was beneficent. The whole of the State debts were paid off. The spiritual welfare of the people, entrusted to her charge, was attended to by raising the temple of Kedareshtar, with a sacrificial altar in Porbandar. She equally satisfied their material wants by digging a tank near the city, to supply a long-felt want of good potable water. After doing innumerable works of great public utility, this good woman, affectionate mother and a typical administrator passed away in 1841. Then the whole burden of the State-affairs devolved upon the tender shoulders of the Rana, who had just reached his eighteenth year. The State gave substantial help in suppressing the revolt of the Vaghers, which was in full swing at the time.

In 1863 Rana Vikmatji set out on a pilgrimage to all the religious places, Ujjain, Benares (Kashi) and others, and returned to Porbandar in 1866, after visiting all the places of interest, including Bombay and Calcutta. The Rana had two queens. (1) One was Banjiba, the daughter of Raj Amar-sinhji of Dhrangadra. She had two sons, both of whom had died in childhood. (2) The other was Bairaj, the daughter of Jadeja Raghoji of Sārodad, under Nawanagar. She had three sons, Madhavsinhji, Pratapsinhji and Amirsinhji and two daughters, Kesaba and Faiba, both of whom were given in marriage to the late Rao Pragmalji of Kutch.

When the Rana was out on his Indian tour the management of the State was entrusted to Prince Madhavsinhji. Unfortunately in the absence of his father, he formed the friendship of a low-born Khawas, and took to

hard drinking; and to such a fatal excess was the pernicious habit carried, and so thoroughly was his physique undermined that he sank suddenly to an early grave, when the Rana Saheb had gone to Broach to visit the Exhibition there.

A detailed account of the tragedy is necessary in order to have an impartial view of the attitude which the Rana and the British Government subsequently adopted. The name of the Khawas was Lakshman; he was the personal attendant of the deceased Prince. Separate quarters had been assigned to the Prince, where the wily Khawas had free scope to ingratiate himself upon him. So far was he successful that the Prince could very well forego the company of his own wife, child and his brothers, but could not pass a single moment without his attendant. The foolish menial made a bad use of his opportunities and led him astray on the path of vice. Under the strain of the over-doses of strong intoxicating drinks his body was reduced to a mere skeleton. Leaving the Prince in such a critical state, the Rana, in response to the invitation of the Political Agent, proceeded to visit the Broach Exhibition. He had left instructions with his Diwan and the medical officers to keep him informed daily of the state of the prostrate Prince; but as it is said, the wretched parasite permitted none of them to approach the Prince and without even consulting him, used to say that his health was improving and that the Rana Saheb should on no account be anxious for him. Thus to the last moment the medical officers were evaded and deceived. Consequently the Prince grew from bad to worse. At the last moment Lakshman sent for the *Vaidya*, who declared *him to be in imminent danger, for which frank audacity the poor physician was locked up in a small room. Thus when Madhavsinghji drew his last weary breath there was none to attend him but the wretched Khawas and his brother. At seven o'clock in the evening when nothing could be known as to the state of his health, his wife, who was also not allowed to nurse her dying husband, grew impatient and set out to proceed to the sick-bed of her lord to inquire after him. Even then Lakshman prevented her from approaching the Prince on the pretence that he was asleep; but she heeded him not and proceeded at once to where the Prince lay. When she saw the dead body of her husband, she began to weep, beating her breast and tearing her hair with violent gesticulation. The mournful news spread like wild fire throughout the palace and the city. Immediately the mourners assembled in large crowds and the Diwan arrested Lakshman and confined him in a dungeon. This sad intelligence reached the ears of

the Rana when he was at Broach. On his return the Rana Sahéb was quite fire and fury towards Lakshman, who had caused Madhav's death. He ordered his nose and ears to be lopped off. Lakshman keenly felt the ignominious disgrace and threw himself down from the terrace of the palace and thus put an end to his wretched life.

When the matter was reported to the Government by the Political Agent, the Government passed orders to degrade the Porbandar State from the first to the third class and a notification to that effect appeared in the Agency Gazette in the year 1869. This being the version of the tragical incident, the Rana next proceeded to apply to be again restored to his first class powers. He felt that he had been harshly and unjustly treated by the Government, for he thought that he would have been perfectly justified, if he had ordered the wretched and faithless Khawas to be at once put to death, and the punishment of cutting off the nose and the ears, which he had inflicted on him, was the mildest that he could think of. The Rana has been really dealt with somewhat with undue severity, and what gives colour to this notion is the spotless private character of the Rana. He is in the habit of taking no intoxicating substance, either opium or liquor. He is a man of chaste morals; he is an intelligent prince and a staunch devotee of God Siva.

In 1876 the Rana erected a temple to the God Siva and named it, Bhojeshvar, after his old name. When Sir Seymour Fitzgerald, the Governor of Bombay, held a Darbar at Rajkot in 1870, the Rana Saheb was present there to pay his respects to him. He was also present when Sir Philip Wodehouse held the Darbar in 1875.

The late lamented prince, Madhavsinhji, had three Ranis (1) Maji-rajba, the daughter of Jadeja Jethiji of Sarodad; (2) the daughter of Jadeja Vajesinhji of Sajanpur, a junior branch of Morbi; and (3) the daughter of Jhala Keshrisinhji of Sayla. Of the three, the princess of Sajanpur has given birth to a son, named Bhavsinhji. He is the grand-son of the Rana Saheb and the heir presumptive to the throne of Porbandar. Of the two other sons of the Rana, Pratapsinhji had received in assignment the estate of Aditiana but he died childless in 1873; the third was Hamirsinhji, to whom Bapodad was assigned; he is now dead, but has left a son, Vajesinhji, who studies at the Rajkumar College, at Rajkot.

Owing to several unfavourable reports against the government of the Rana Saheb, he has been of late deprived of his regal powers and a British

Administrator has been appointed to manage the affairs of the State. Mr. Lely, a Collector from the British Districts, of proved ability, was selected for the post and under him many improvements were introduced in the system of administration. Subsequently a native administrator was chosen in the person of the late Rao Bahadur Shankar Pandurang Pandit. Under him also the reforms inaugurated by his predecessor were advanced still further. On the death of Mr. Pandit the administration was again entrusted to European officials. At present Mr. Maurison holds the post of the Administrator of Porbandar and the resources of the State have been perfectly developed under him.

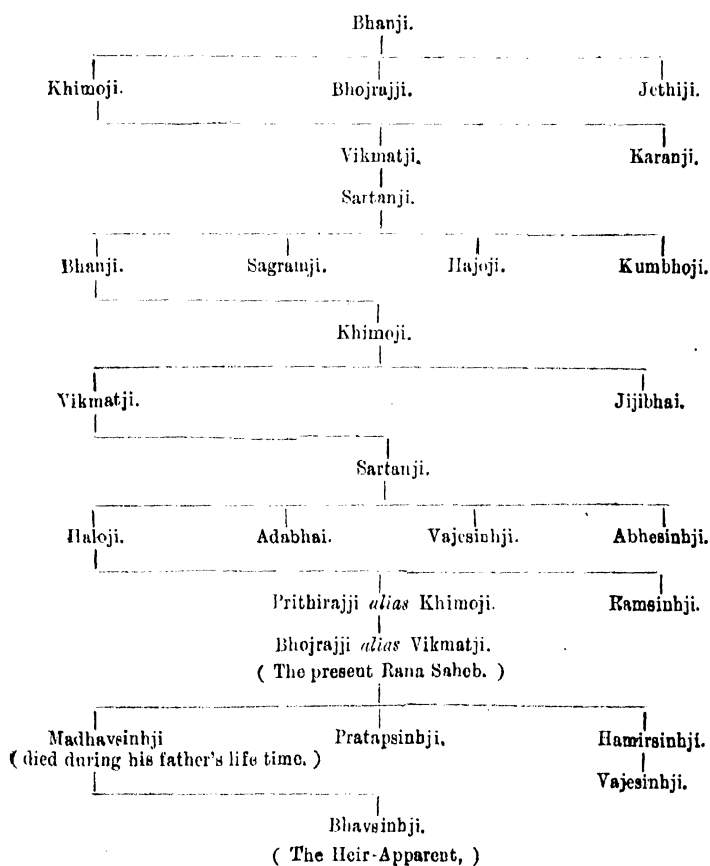
The Ranas of Porbandar are entitled to inferior criminal powers and to a salute of 11 guns, which, however, the present Rana, Shri Vikmatji, receives only when he is in British India.



Genealogical tree.

Makardhvaj, Mordhvaj, Tamardhvaj, Nildhvaj, Hansdhvaj, Jethidhvaj, Jambudhvaj, Seshmal Kumar, Manvahan Kumar, Kankam Kumar, Arak Kumar, Sangram Kumar, Arjun Kumar, Sangh Kumar, Karan Kumar, Sadharma Kumar, Indrajit Kumar, Shil Kumar, Varaha Kumar, Champsen Kumar, Vajde Kumar, Phul Kumar, Asvasen Kumar, Prathu Kumar, Adit Kumar, Shangan Kumar, Bhan Kumar, Vikaji Kumar, Bakhuji Kumar, Ramsinhji Kumar, Meh Kumar, Mep Kumar, Prathi Kumar, Gang Kumar, Bal Kumar, Akheraj Kumar, Bakhhal Kumar, Sursena Kumar, Ugrajit Kumar, Aditji Kumar, Bharmal Kumar, Vanvir Kumar, Viram Kumar, Randhaval Kumar, Ratan Kumar, Sugrasen Kumar, Kesarji Kumar, Mep Kumar, Vajeraaj Kumar, Meji Kumar, Vika Kumar, Bakhhal Kumar, Agrasen Kumar, Jasdhul Kumar, Randhirji Kumar, Rindhaval Rajan, Gopal Rajan, Rangahelji Rajan, Viramde Rajan, Vikuji Rajan, Randeji Rajan, Aditji Rajan, Rangahelji Rajan, Randhaval Rajan, Dhundamal Rajan, Abhykrat Rajan, Vishvajit Rajan, Randhaval Maharaj, Gopalji Maharaj, Rangohel Maharaj, Aditji Maharaj, Bakhulji Maharaj, Sangji Maharaj, Randeji Maharaj, Randhavalji Maharaj, Varjangji Maharaj, Sandhusen Maharaj, Vajeraajji Maharaj, Melagdev Maharaj, Bakhuji Maharaj, Vajsiji Maharaj, Jethiji Maharaj, Kumbhoji Maharaj, Nagji Maharaj, Vakmayat Maharaj, Nagujanji Maharaj, Bhanji Maharaj, Halamanji Maharaj, Randhaval Maharaj, Bhanji Maharaj, Ramdeji Maharaj, Sartanji Maharaj, Khetoji Maharaj.

Bhanji Maharaj, Jethiji, Viranji, Vikuji, Govindji, Nagji, Champsenji, Aditji, Meheji, Nagji, Bhanji, Shivji, Ramdeji, Bakhujji, Ranoji, Sangji, Bhanji, Shiyaji, Halaman, Bhanji, Meheji, Nagji, Vikuji, Nagbhanji, Vikiaji, Khetuji, Ranoji, Khimoji, Vikmatji, Khetuji, Ramdevji, Sartanji, Bakuji, Ranoji, Bhanji, Nagji, Wakuji, Bhanji, Viranji, Khimkhanji, Nagji, Shiguji, Aditji, Hariadji, Bakuji, Sartanji, Bhanji, Wikuji, Kanji, Vanvirji, Nagjanji, Bhanji, Hariadji, Sangji, Ranoji, Nagji, Bharmalji, Bhanji, Mehji, Nagji, Vikioji, Vajsiji, Bhojrajji, Ramdeji, Ranoji, Nagji, Bhanji, Jasdhulji, Ranoji, Sangji, Bhanji, Ranoji, Khimoji, Ramdeji and



Residence.—Porbandar, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

PUDUKOTA.

Area.—1,380 sq. miles. Population.—373,010.

Revenue.—7,00,000 rupees.

The Chiefs of Pudukota, who have been designated in history by the title of Tondiman Rajas, claim their descent from the ancient Kallar family. When the British Army besieged Trichinopoli in 1752 the Chief of Pudukota supplied the English contingent with provisions and munitions of war. In subsequent campaigns against Haidar Ali, and the rebellious usurpers of Shivaganga, a large estate in the district of Madura, the Raja of Pudukota remained by the side of the English. In 1803, the then reigning Chief preferred a claim to the fort and district of Kilanelli, in the south of Tanjore, urging that the same had been granted to his ancestors by Raja Pratap Sinh of Tanjore. He also relied on several subsequent engagements entered into by Colonel Braithwaite, General Coote and Lord Macartney. The Raja sought a favourable consideration of his claims on the ground of his valuable services to the British Government. After a preliminary enquiry, the Government of Madras ceded to the Tondiman Raja the fort and district of Kilanelli, which grant was confirmed by the Board of Directors. It was stipulated that the chiefs of Pudukota should on no account alienate any part of the district and that the estate should revert to the British Government, whenever it was proved to the satisfaction of the Supreme Government that the people of that district were subjected to any oppression or maltreatment. The district so ceded yields an annual income of 30,000 rupees. This grant was made subject to the yearly tribute of an elephant, but in 1836 this condition was cancelled and the tribute remitted.

Raja Vijaya Raghunath Tondiman died in 1807, leaving two sons, of whom the elder, then aged only 11 years, succeeded to the *gadi*. During his minority the administration was carried on by state officials under the general control and supervision of the Resident at Tanjore, who introduced several important reforms in the revenue, police and judicial departments of the State. The sole charge of the government was entrusted to the Raja on his attaining majority in the year 1817. Vijaya Raghunath Rai Tondiman died in 1825, and was succeeded by his younger brother, Raja Raghunath Tondiman, who, dying in 1839, was succeeded by his son, Ramchandra Tondiman. For some time the affairs of the State were conducted by the Dowager-Rani, assisted by her minister and other

officials, but in 1841 complaints of injustice and oppression reached the ears of the Madras Government, and the Resident of Tanjore was ordered to reside at Pudukota for the greater part of the year and keep a strict control over the affairs of the State, which were allowed to be conducted by the ministers of the Raja. The Resident, however, made it obligatory upon these ministers to submit to him all questions of grants of land, assignments of produce, creation of new offices and increase or decrease of emoluments. The Residency at Tanjore having been abolished, the Collector of Madura was put in Political charge of Pudukota. During his administration all debts were paid off and a large surplus was invested in Government security.

The sole management of the State was entrusted to Ramchandra Tondiman, on his attaining the age of majority. He proved an extravagant prince, and the Madras government frequently interposed and checked his reckless expenditure. The grant of Kilanelli had been made subject to resumption by the English Government on a satisfactory proof that the people of that district were heavily taxed or otherwise maltreated. The Madras Government brought this stipulation to the notice of the Raja and warned him that if he persisted in his extravagance his State would be placed under the direct management and control of a British officer, and that he would be assigned only a fixed personal allowance. This mild warning was not enough to mend the wayward youth, who continued in his career of reckless extravagance. At last the Raja was deprived of several titles, which were restored to him in 1870, on his undertaking to improve the administration of his State.

Raja Ramchandra Tondiman died on 15th April 1886, and was succeeded by his grand-son, Martanda Bhairav Tondiman, the present Chief of Pudukota. During his nonage the administration was conducted by the Diwan-Regent, acting under the direct control of the Political Agent. In 1887 an agreement was entered into with the British Government, by which the manufacture of earth salt within the territory of Pudukota was suppressed, the British government agreeing to compensate the Raja by paying an annual sum of Rs. 38,000. The option of cancelling these arrangements was left to the British Government, who were declared entitled to annul the same after sufficient notice, whenever they deemed it expedient to do so.

The affairs of the State are under the general control and supervision of the Collector of Trichinopoli, who is also ex-officio Political Agent of Pudukota.

The Raja of Pudukota has been granted the privilege of adoption, pays no tribute to the British Government and is entitled to a salute of 11 guns.

Genealogical tree.

Vijaya Raghunath Tondiman.

Vijaya Raghunath Rai Tondiman.

Raghunath Tondiman.

Ramchandra Tondiman.

Martanda Bhairav Tondiman.

(The present Chief.)

Residence.—Pudukota, Madras Presidency ; Southern India.



RADHANPUR.

Area.—1,150 sq. miles. Population.—98,017.

Revenue.—5,00,000 rupees.

Radhanpur is bounded on the north by the Talukas of Morwada (under Tharad), Terwada and Kankrej ; on the south, by Jhinjhuwada in Kathiawad ; on the east, by Kadi in the Gaekwadi territories ; and on the west, by the Warahi Taluka and the Run of Kutch.

The Nawab of Radhanpur is a Mussalman of the illustrious Babi family. Bahadur Khan, the founder of that dynasty, came to India from Afghanistan in the reign of Shah Jahan, the grand-son of Emperor Akbar. When Prince Murad Baksha was appointed Viceroy of Gujarat in 1654, Bahadur Khan sent with him his son, Sher Khan, to that province. He showed signs of great firmness and skill, whereupon the Viceroy first bestowed upon him the *thandari* of the Chunval *paragna* in 1663. The Koli inhabitants of that place were well known for their marauding instincts, but Sher Khan kept them under restraint. He had four sons, of whom the third, Zafar Khan, was confirmed in his father's place at Chunval in the year 1693. In recognition of the valuable services performed by him, he was promoted to the Nayab Subaship at Patan with the title of 'Safdar Khan,' which he received from the Emperor of Delhi.

In 1698 owing to a misunderstanding between Sujat Khan, the Suba of Gujarat, and his Deputy, Zafar Khan, the latter resigned and retired to Malwa. He did not return to Gujarat until the expiration of Sujat Khan's term of office. In 1703 Durga Das, the ex-Suba of Gujarat, raised the standard of revolt, when Zafar Khan volunteered to suppress it by either killing Durga Das or capturing him alive. Durga Das was at last taken prisoner and driven out of Gujarat. Zafar Khan Babi, having succeeded in thus expelling Durga Das, was reinstated in his place of the Nayab Suba of Patan in 1704. The management of Vijapur was also entrusted to his care.

When the Marathas overran the southern districts of Gujarat in 1705, Nazar Ali Khan and Zafar Khan were ordered to oppose them and put a stop to their further progress. They lay encamped with their troops near Ratanpur in the Rajpipla territory. The two generals were not on terms of intimacy with each other. Besides, Dhanaji Jadav, the leader of the Maratha bands, made a nocturnal sally upon the Mahomedan

camp, whereupon the Mussalmans fled for their lives. Zafar Khan was taken prisoner and one of his sons, killed in the scuffle. Dhanaji after extorting a heavy ransom from Zafar Khan set him at liberty, and the humiliated Moslem returned to Patan. Durga Das once more setting his foot upon the Gujarat soil, raised his head against the ruling authority. Zafar Khan was promised the Subaship of Patan, if he succeeded in suppressing Durga Das' revolt. Zafar Khan undertook the task of either killing Durga Das or capturing him alive. The Babi succeeded in killing the Hindu rebel and was raised to the post of the Suba of Patan.

Zafar Khan from that date was ranked among the influential and leading Umraos (nobility) of Gujarat. All his sons were provided with high places in the State. One of his sons, Mahmud Sher, was, in 1716, appointed Suba of Radhanpur with the title of ' Khan Jahan Jawan Marda Khan.' In 1723, he was entrusted with the management of several other districts, when at last in 1725, he was promoted to the Subaship of Gujarat. Four years later, in 1729, he was killed at the hands of a Valor Koli. After his death his eldest son, Kamal-ud-Din Khan, was appointed Nayab Suba of Gujarat with the title of ' Jawan Marda Khan, ' and he was subsequently made Suba of Gujarat. When he held the latter post, Raghunath Rao, the brother of the Peshwa, and Damaji Rao Gaekwad arrived at Ahmedabad, levying tributes from all the surrounding chiefs. Kamal-ud-Din Khan *alias* Jawan Marda Khan II was then absent at Palanpur. While the Marathas were engaged in making preparations to scale the walls of the fort of Ahmedabad and then descend into the city, the absent Viceroy rode up to the scene of action and made a bold stand against the advance-guard of the Marathas. The invaders outnumbered the garrison stationed at Ahmedabad and Jawan Marda Khan was obliged to enter into an alliance with them in the year 1757. The Marathas, by this treaty, granted to the Babi the sole possession of Radhanpur, Sami, Mujpur, Patan, Vadnagar, Visnagar and Vijapur. Jawan Marda Khan then retired to Radhanpur and established an independent principality. After some time, Shambhu Ram and a Rohila Pathan rebelled against the Marathas, who suspecting the Babi's hand in the revolt, confiscated all his estates, retaining in his possession only the districts of Radhanpur, Sami and Mujpur.

Babi Kamal-ud-Din Khan died in 1765, leaving behind him two sons, Gej-ud-Din Khan and Nazam-ud-Din Khan. The elder, Gej-ud-Din Khan,

succeeded to the *gadi* of Radhanpur. He reigned for 48 years, during which period the State was plunged into heavy debts. He died in 1813.

Babi Gaj-ud-Din Khan had two sons, Sher Khan and Kamal-ud-Din Khan. They distributed the patrimony between themselves. Sher Khan took Radhanpur, while Sami and Mujpur fell to the share of Kamal-ud-Din Khan. The latter, however, dying soon after, his share was reunited with that of his elder brother. It was in Sher Khan's time that the State came in contact with the British Government, for the first time in 1813. Captain Carnac was then entrusted with the work of settling the differences that existed between the Gaekwad and the other Native States of the province, and 'under the advice of that officer Sher Khan made a treaty with the Gaekwad. In this the Gaekwad, though he could not meddle with the internal management of Radhanpur, was empowered, under the advice and mediation of the British Government, to control its external relations and to help the Nawab in defending his State from foreign invasion.'

Within five years from the date of this agreement a gang of marauders arrived from Sindh and began to lay waste the Radhanpur territory. The Nawab sought the assistance of the English in saving his country from the raids of these free-booters. In consideration of the material help rendered by them, the Nawab negotiated an agreement with their officer, Captain Miles, on July 6th, 1820. 'Under the terms of this agreement the Nawab bound himself not to harbour robbers, plunderers, or enemies of the British Government; to accompany the British troops with all his forces, and to pay a yearly tribute in proportion to his means. On the 18th February 1822, the yearly tribute was for five years fixed at a sum of 17000 rupees. It continued in force for three years when (26th July 1825) the Court of Directors, deeming the State unable to pay so large a sum, remitted it in full. Tribute has never again been imposed.' *

Nawab Sher Khan died in the year 1825, and was succeeded by Zorawar Khan. He was a mere child, three years old, at the time of his accession and the management of affairs was taken up into their own hands by the British Government. When Zorawar Khan attained the age of 16 years, in 1837, the sole management of the State was entrusted to his care. In consideration of his devotion and loyalty towards the British Crown, the *sanad* of adoption was granted to Zorawar Khan in 1862,

* Bombay Gazetteer Vol. V. page 327.

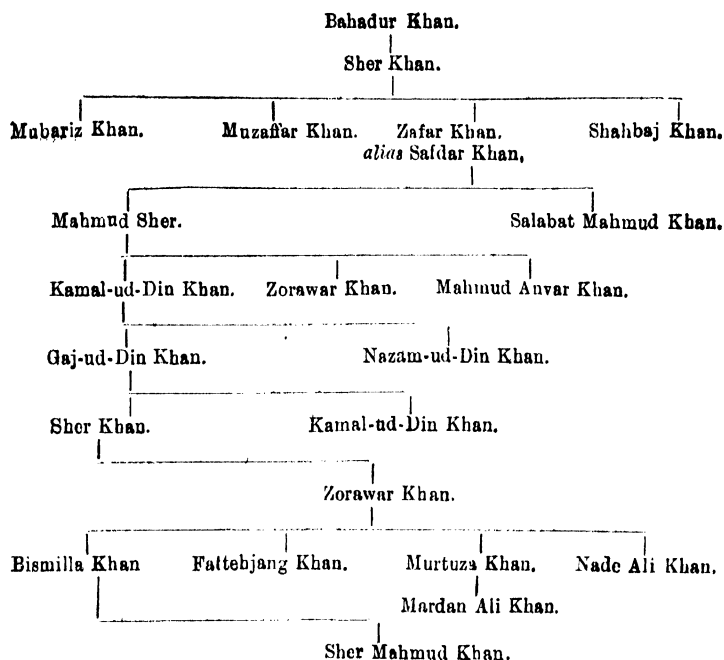
whereby he and his successors were empowered, in the absence of a natural born heir, to adopt one in accordance with the Mahomedan Law, without the payment of a succession duty.

Nawab Zorawar Khan, after a rule extending over 50 years, died in the month of October 1874. He had, at the time of his death, four sons, Bismilla Khan, Fattehjang Khan, Murtuja Khan and Nade Ali Khan. Of these the eldest, Bismilla Khan, ascended the *gadi*.

His Highness, Nawab Bismilla Khanji, who was a liberal and compassionate ruler, graced with many other virtues, expired on the 20th December, 1895, leaving a widow, two sons and two daughters. Before his death, the Nawab executed a will, by which he entrusted the management of the State to a Council composed of the Diwan and four other members, including his brother, Nade Ali Khanji, who was also the father-in-law of the Heir-apparent. After the Nawab's demise a question arose as to how far the Paramount Power was bound to respect such wills of native potentates, and in spite of the protest, raised by the Begam, Jinnat Mahal, the will of the Nawab was set aside, and the administration entrusted to an English Officer, Major Lyde. Nawab Sher Mahmud Khanji was installed on the *gadi* in January 1896. He is still a minor, aged only 11 years. He has proceeded to the Rajkumar College at Rajkot, for the prosecution of his studies.



Genealogical tree.



(The present Nawab.)

Residence.—Radhanpur, Palanpur Agency; Bombay Presidency.

RAJGARH.

Area.—642 sq. miles. Population.—118,749.

Revenue.—3,50,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the Kotah State in Rajputana ; on the east and west, by the dominions of Sindhia, and on the south, by the State of Narsingharh.

The rulers of Rajgarh are Umat Rajputs, and are styled Rawats. According to bardic chronicles they are descended from the celebrated Vikram, the 'friend of the poor,' who ruled at Ujjain. These chroniclers state that when the Bauddha religion was rampant in India and Brahamanism was in imminent danger of being obliterated from the surface of the land, when the followers of the new creed were harassing and oppressing those who believed in the religion of the Vedas, Rupdevata, Parasur, Agastya and other sages ignited the sacred fire and preparing an altar on the top of Mount Abu, offered sacrifices to the Vedic deities. From the sacrificial altar there sprung out four brave Rajputs, the progenitors of the Chauhan, Puwar, Solanki and Padihar tribes. They espoused the cause of the Brahmans and waging a deadly war against the Budhists, vanquished them and renovated the old Brahman religion. The Puwar Rajputs subsequently became masters of Umatwada. Vikramajit was the most celebrated of these Rajputs. The rulers of Rajgarh and Nasingharh trace their descent from this monarch of immortal fame. Vikramajit had two sons, Vagarchatar and Chatarmakmor. The renowned Raja Bhoja, who was a descendant of the elder brother, is described by the family bards as having ascended the throne on the 14th of *Shrawan Vad*, *Samwat* 393. According to that authority Bhoja flourished nearly 1600 years ago, which theory has been falsified by later investigations. From a work, named *Rajavati*, it appears that 1300 years have elapsed since Bhoja reigned at Dhar. According to bardic legends after Bhoja's death the *gadi* was successively occupied by Ruppasta, Mandhata, Umambha, Bhanand, Vis, Sinut, Dhirvis, and Dharti-darhak. Of these the last named prince had nine brave sons, Sanunt Sinh, Dinpaiji, Kachhpaiji, Hansrajji, Ansaji, Palanji, Bharat, Dindinjibhoj and Khimrajji. The eldest of them, Sanunt Sinh, mounted the *gadi* on the death of his father. He also after his demise was succeeded by Sadhraoji, Sobakhraoji, Jhalangji, Badarji and Chakh, who ascended the *gadi* one after the other. Chakh was after his death succeeded by Udayadit. He had

two sons ; Rindhaval and Pardhulji *alias* Jag Deo, of whom the latter sat on the *gadi*. He had also two sons ; Dantarji *alias* Jagdhaval and Manhunvadji *alias* Bijdhaval. Samarsiji, the son of Manhunvadji, became the founder of the Bhathora Puwar dynasty. Dantarji was succeeded by his eldest son, Umarsi, who founded Umarkot on the frontiers of Sindh and Marwad. It was from their residence at Umarkot that the descendants of Umarsi were styled Umat Puwars. They subsequently moved away to Malwa, where they established an independent principality. A dispute arose between Umarsi and his cousin, Samarsiji. They were, however, soon reconciled and while Umarsi withdrew to the hill-fort of Dhand, Samarsiji remained at Umarkot. After Umarsi there flourished, Sankhanji, Parjiki, Badarji, Gunrajji, Lakhanji, Jaspalji, Palji, Modji, Umar Sen, Patalsiji, Gajgaoji and Bhimji. Of these the last, Bhimji, invaded the territories of the Bhil chief, then reigning at the foot of Mount Abu, and slaying the wild prince, he subjugated all his realms. He afterwards made over that portion of the territories to the Rana of Chitod. The Rana rewarded his services with the title of 'Rawat.' He also bestowed upon him an elephant, a horse, a *Chammar* (mark of royalty) and a rich dress of honor.

After the death of Rawat Bhimji the throne was successively occupied by Rawats, Sheraji, Sojaji, Harsiji, Odhuji and Dhiraji. They were all feudatories of the Rana of Chitod, to whom they owed feudal services. Rawat Dhiraji was succeeded by Rawat Sarang Sen. With the intention of proceeding to Dhar and reconquering his lost possessions, he marched to Mandu at the head of a large army and besieged the citadel. The garrison was strong enough to repel the invading troops and Sarang Sen was obliged to return defeated and discomfited. After Sarang Sen's death, Jasrajji, Khimchandji, Hanuji and Gumanji successively wore the crown. The last named, Gumanji, ascended the throne in the year 1448. In 1459, he fought with the lawless and turbulent classes of people in Malwa in concert with the Imperial Viceroy. On his return to Sarangpur, he was appointed Governor of Kanar, Nalkheda, Balban, Khajner, Bhasana and Biaora districts. Subsequently on the Suba's recommendation, his services were further recognised by the grant of a *sanad* conferring upon him 22 districts in perpetuity, as well as by the bestowal of a rich dress of honor, elephants and horses. Rawat Gumanji was, on his death in 1468, succeeded by Dalipji. The Suba honoured him, too, by the present of a rich dress of investiture. His troops consisted of 10,000 brave and hardy sons of the soil. He was, after his death in 1514, succeeded by

Jodhaji, who, dying ten years later, was succeeded by Damanji in 1524. After reigning for two years he died in 1526, and was succeeded by Bhamanji, who, in his turn, was succeeded by Nipaji, in 1558. He attended the Imperial Court at Delhi and the Mughal Emperor, Akbar, pleased with his devotion, bestowed upon him a rich dress of honor (consisting of 21 pieces), a pearl necklace, a *Shirpech*, a *kutji* (turban decoration), an elephant and a horse. He was also ordered to accompany the Amir, commanding the Imperial troops, in his invasion on Multan. On his return he was sent back to Malwa and was permitted to keep a standing army, though the Mahomedan Suba was advised to keep an eye over the Rajput Chief. These troops were to be paid out of the Imperial revenues. Rawat Nipaji was succeeded by Kishnaji. No accurate account for the next two or three generations has come down to us, yet we give below what little we have been able to glean from the fourth volume of Mr. Aitchison's masterly work on Indian Treaties.

Two brothers, of the Umat Rajput tribe, named Mohan Sinh and Paras Ram, sons of Ajab Sinh, established an independent principality within the domains subsequently owned by Daulat Rao Sindhia. Of these the elder, Mohan Sinh, assumed the hereditary title of Rawat, while the younger styled himself Diwan, and they distributed the territories between themselves. The Rawat, being the elder of the two, got in his share five villages more than the younger, Diwan. It was this family partition that gave rise to the two independent States of Rajgarh and Narsingharh. When the Maratha forces overran the whole province of Malwa, the Umat Chiefs, like their brothers, acknowledged the supremacy of the predatory Marathas, but comparatively milder terms were conceded to them, by which the Rawat agreed to pay to Sindhia a sum of 85,000 rupees a year, while the Diwan was compelled to pay an annual tribute of 65,000 rupees to Holkar. These two brothers, Mohan Sinh and Paras Ram, flourished in the line of Rawat Kishnaji.

Rawat Mohan Sinh, after the death of his father in 1646, assumed the reins of government in his hands. His younger brother, according to the custom then prevalent in the family, began to be known by the title of Diwan. Mohan Sinh commenced the work of erecting the two forts of Rajgarh and Patan in 1649 (corresponding to *Vaisakh Sud* 3rd of the *Samvat* era 1705,) and himself repaired to Delhi. He was ordered by the Emperor, Shah Jahan, to march upon Multan. Diwan Paras Ram carried on the administration during the absence of his elder brother. After the

successful termination of the expedition against Multan the Emperor rewarded the services of Mohan Sinh by bestowing on him a rich dress of honor and a *sanad*, granting him in perpetuity five *paragnas*. He then returned to his own capital and directed his attention towards the amelioration of the condition of his ryots. After some time he got an Imperial *firman*, in which it was stated that as Khiji, the Chief, of Biaora and Baluji, the governor of Malaora, were plundering the mails and advancing beyond the limits of their respective territories, he should forthwith proceed to chastise them and depriving them of their estates, annex them to his own fief. Mohan Sinh accordingly first marched upon Malaora and defeating Baluji, subjugated his territories. He then proceeded to Biaora and in the struggle with Khiji, slew him with 300 of his confederates. The territories of the vanquished chief fell into the hands of the victor. Besides these two chiefs, a Bhil named, Chakra Sen, who was residing at Khanakhedi, also indulged in plundering the royal mails. The Raja of Kotah was ordered by the Imperial *firman* to march against him and chastise him for his turbulent conduct. The Raja was assisted by Rawat Mohan Sinh, the Chief of Khilchipur and the governor of Chanjura. The Raja of Kotah hemmed in the Bhil chief on all sides and at last slaying him, seized upon his estate and gave it over to the Rawat of Rajgarh. The younger brother of Mohan Sinh, who wielded great influence in that part of the country, now opposed his elder brother and demanded half the share from his newly acquired regions. The family feud was at last amicably settled through the intervention of some of the influential men in the State and the whole territory was divided into two equal parts. Mohan Sinh was practically the first Rawat Chief of Rajgarh, while Diwan Paras Ram was the first ruler of Narsingharh.

Rawat Mohan Sinh dying in 1658, was succeeded by Amar Sinh. During his reign an Afghan adventurer had become master of Shivgarh and was harassing the poor ryots. The people were groaning under his oppression and tyranny. The revenue officer of that place solicited the assistance of Rawat Amar Sinh, who forthwith proceeded to that place, and levying a large tribute, returned to his capital. Rawat Amar Sinh died in 1741 and was succeeded by Narpat Sinh. He dying in 1738, was succeeded by Jagat Sinh. He had twelve sons, of whom the eldest, Hamir Sinh, occupied the *gadi* after his father's death in 1776. After reigning for fifteen years, Rawat Hamir Sinh expired in 1791. Pratap Sinh then assumed the reins of government in his hands. Of his four sons, the

eldest, Prithi Sinh, succeeded him to the throne of Rajgarh. He was treacherously murdered by his younger brother, Nawal Sinh, who usurped the *gadi* in the year 1805.

The English first made their entry into the province of Malwa during those days of general disorder. The British Government guaranteed the regular payment of the annual tribute by the Rawat to Maharaja Sindhia and obtained under the terms of an agreement the right of interference in the internal management of the State. A fresh agreement was passed with the English in the matter of certain disputes between the Rawat Chief of Rajgarh and the Puars of Dewas, regarding the former's claim to the Zilla of Sarangpur. These disputes related to certain shares in the revenues of the villages, as also to definite shares in the excise and customs duties. The former claim was settled for 4,101 rupees of the Bhopal currency, while in consideration of the latter, a lump sum of 1,001 rupees was awarded by the British Government.

In 1821 Rawat Nawal Sinh committed suicide and the *gadi* next devolved upon his nephew, Moti Sinh. Under the terms of a new treaty the Maharaja Sindhia returned the district of Patan to the Rawat, who, in return, agreed to resume the payment of the former tribute of 85,000 rupees. In 1846 the British Government were forced to interfere in the internal administration of Rajgarh, owing to the Rawat's misrule. Khok Sinh Amali, the uncle of the Chief, was entrusted with the work of administering the State and one Ram Lal was appointed Diwan to assist him in evolving order out of chaos. In fact the Diwan was invested with the sole power in the State. Unfortunately Ram Lal did not long survive his elevation to the Diwanate and he died in 1849. The guilt of murdering that amiable Diwan is laid at the door of Rawat Moti Sinh. The British Government then appointed in his place a Superintendent, under the immediate supervision of the Political Agent of Bhopal. This place was abolished in the year 1856, when the sole administration was once more restored to Rawat Moti Sinh, free from all encumbrances. Not only was the whole debt paid off, but the State treasury was replenished with ready cash. While entrusting the State to Moti Sinh, it was expressly stipulated that he should scrupulously respect the terms of the leases granted to agricultural ryots by the British officers, for the next twenty years.

Rawat Moti Sinh had a great predilection for Islamism, and not only did he favour the followers of that creed, but himself embraced it and

practised its rites in private, though ostensibly he remained a Hindu. This gave rise to a feud between the friends and relations of the convert Chief and the matter reached the ears of the British authorities. Attempts were made to suppress the true state of things, and for some time these Government officials were kept in the dark. Afterwards Moti Sinh publicly avowed himself a true follower of Mahmud, and insisted upon the rite of circumcision being performed upon his youngest son. Not content with that he forced his relations and friends to embrace Islamism. Bitter complaints were made to the Agent to H. E. the Governor-General, and he reported the matter to the Supreme Government. In December 1857 the India Government sanctioned the avowal of Islamism by Rawat Moti Sinh, and he, with his relations, was publicly and ceremoniously admitted within the pale of the Islam creed. Moti Sinh caused large and elegant mosques to be erected in Biaora and Rajgarh and ordered the public observance of *Roja* (annual fasts) and *Nimaj* (daily prayer). The Mussalmans were then in the ascendant. Moti Sinh afterwards proposed that he might be allowed to adopt the title of 'Nawab' in lieu of Rawat and that he may be styled by his Mahomedan name, Abdul Wasih Khan instead of his Hindu name, Moti Sinh. The Agent of Central India submitted a report to the Governor-General, who, on the 25th of June 1871, despatched a *sanad* to the Rajgarh Chief, conferring upon him the title of 'Nawab' and sanctioning his adoption of the new name of Abdul Wasih Khan. It was clearly mentioned in the *sanad* that the dignified title of 'Nawab' was bestowed on him and his heirs in consideration of his loyalty and devotion to the British Crown. Abdul Wasih Khan had three sons, of whom the eldest, Bakhtawar Sinh, and the youngest, Bahe Sinh, had embraced Islamism. The second son, Balwant Sinh, had remained true to his ancestral faith. He was driven away from the capital and while wandering from place to place, bitterly complaining of his father's ill treatment, he died a miserable fugitive.

In this State, too, the transit duties on salt were abolished and the cash commutations were made for the payments in kind in 1880 and 1881. Similarly all transit duties levied within the State were abolished in 1884.

Nawab Mahmud Abdul Wasih Khan died in 1880 and was succeeded by his son, Bakhtawar Sinh. He returned to the Hindu faith but did not disturb the Mahomedan State-Officials appointed by his father. On his death in 1882 his son, Bal Bahadur Sinh, was after some penance readmitted

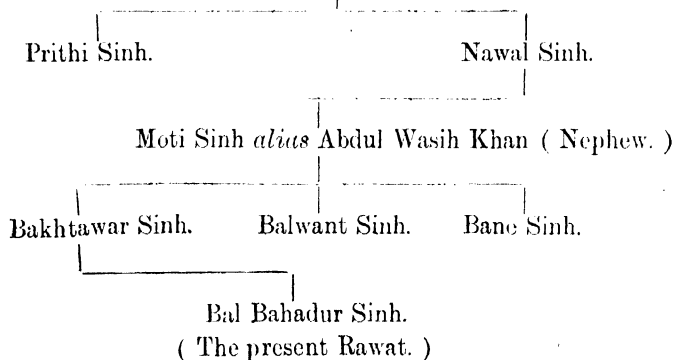
into the Hindu community at the time of his installation. The title of **Raja** was conferred on the young Rawat in 1885 on the occasion of H. E. the Viceroy's visit to Indore.

The Rawat of Rajgarh has been granted the right of adoption. He has judicial inferior powers and enjoys a salute of 11 guns.

Genealogical tree.

Mohan Sinh, Amar Sinh, Narpat Sinh, Jagat Sinh, Hamir Sinh and

Pratap Sinh.



Residence.—Rajgarh, Bhopal Agency ; Central India.



RAJPIPLA.

Area.—1600 sq. miles. Population.—1,71,909.

Revenue.—7,60,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the river Narbada and the Mehvasi estates of Rewa Kantha ; on the east, by the Mehvasi estates under the District of Khandesh ; on the south, by the State of Baroda and the Surat District ; and on the west, by the Broach District.

The rulers of Rajpipla are Gohel Rajputs of the Solar race and are descended from the celebrated Shalivahan,* who ruled at Peithan Nagar in the Deccan about the year 77. One of his descendants, several degrees removed from him, conquered the dominions of Juna Khergarh, in Marwad, from the hands of the Bhil ruler Khedwa, where his descendants ruled for nearly twenty generations. Shiyoji, the grand son of Jayachand, the last of the Rathod kings of Kanouj, invaded these territories and slaying Mohodas, the last of Shalivahan's descendants, who ruled at Khergarh, established the Rathod rule in Marwad. The present Chief of Jodhpur is a direct descendant of Shiyoji.

After the death of Mohodas the Gohels under the leadership of his grand-son, Sejakji, migrated to Sorath about 1250. Rah Mehepo *alias* Mahipal III was reigning at Sorath at the time of their arrival there, and taking refuge with him, they took up their residence at Junagarh. They were very warmly received by Rah Mahipal and his son, Khengar, and Sejakji, agreeing to accept service, was granted a *sauval* for 12 villages round the district of Shapur, in Panchal. Sejakji had a daughter, named Valam Kunwarba, who was married to Prince Khengar. With the permission of the Rah, Sejakji founded a small village, which he called after him Sejakpur and removing his seat of government thither, he conquered the surrounding villages. He granted a village to each of his four brothers, while the fifth, Visoji, repairing to Khas and marrying the daughter of a Mer, resided permanently in that village. He and his descendants came to be distinguished as Khasia Kolis.

Sejakji had three other sons, Ranoji Shahji and Sarangji, of whom the last two were the full-brothers of Valam Kunwarba. The Rah therefore bestowed upon Shahji twenty four villages in the *paragna* of Mandvi Chovisi, and upon Sarangji twenty four villages in the *paragna* of Arthila Chovisi.

* This Shalivahan was the founder of the now era still observed in the Deccan.

The descendants of the former are to this day reigning at Palitana, while those of the latter have inherited the estate of Lathi.

After the death of Sejakji in 1290, his eldest son, Ranoji, succeeded him to the chiefship and founding the village of Ranpur, made it his capital. In a quarrel with the Mussalmans Ranoji was slain, and Ranpur fell into their hands. (1309).

After Ranoji's death his son, Mokhdaji, conquered Bhindad from the Vala Rajputs and Umrula from the Kolis and settled at the latter village. Driving away the Mussalmans from Khokhra and Gogha, he annexed them to his estate and subsequently removed his seat of government to the island of Piram, which he conquered from the Bariya Kolis. Juma Khan, the Emperor of Delhi, hearing of the capture of Gogha by Mokhdaji, marched upon his capital at the head of the Imperial army. When the Emperor reached Gogha, the Gohel chief was securely reigning at Piram. The Royal troops lay encamped on the sea-shore, while their opponent entrenched within his insular stronghold, roared like a lion from within. The Mussalmans flung in the air showers of arrows, but none hitting the enemy, the Emperor at last thought it expedient to resort to treachery and foul play. He made up his mind to go to Piram, but the roaring waves of the sea frightened him out of his wits. Mokhdaji Gohel, with the blood of the chivalrous Kshatriya flowing in his veins, said to himself, that sooner or later death would inevitably overtake him, then why long for an ignominious death, pent up in his cave, when an opportunity had already been offered him of exhibiting his valour and immortalising his name in the world, or if slain in the battle, of obtaining eternal bliss in the celestial world. Making such a bold resolve, he, with the cream of his soldiery, sailed for Gogha, where they arrived at mid-night. In the morning he flung open the gates and sword-in-hand, the brave warrior, with his comrades, fell upon the Mahomedan host. The battle grew fierce and sounds of pipes, horns and drums filled the air; the field was flooded over by human gore and the Mussalmans were slain in large numbers. The contending armies at last met pell-mell and Mokhdaji at the head of the advance-guard made a fearful havoc in the enemy's rank. He was seated on an elephant and the Emperor's nephew flung an arrow against him. The fatal weapon hitting him in the fore-head, he fell down senseless on the ground. Regaining his consciousness, the valiant Chief pounced upon his foe and heads of soldiers rolled before his glittering sabre, like ears of corn before the mow-

ing scythe. At last Mokhdaji fell, though his severed head was heard to cry 'Strike, kill,' near the Gogha gate, while his trunk was seen advancing against the enemy. The Emperor with only a few of his associates escaped this fearful carnage. The Mussalmans placed a piece of thread, dyed with indigo tint before the advancing trunk of Mokhdaji and it fell dead on the ground, and his sword ceased to cause a ravage in their rank 1347.

Mokhdaji had married two wives, one of whom was the daughter of the Parmar chief of Rajpipla, while the other was the daughter of the Sarvaiya chief of Hathsani, a village near Palitana. Dungarsinhji was the name of his son by the Sarvaiya queen, while the Rajpipla princess had also given birth to a son, named Samarsinhji. Both these princes had, at the time of the above mentioned disaster, been sent to their maternal homes for safety. From this it appears that till the middle of the 14th century Rajpipla was under the sway of Parmar kings, descended from the much renowned Vikram, the lord of Ujjain.

After the return of the Imperial troops, Dungarsinhji, consolidated a new principality in Gohelwad,* while Samarsinhji succeeded his maternal uncle to the Rajpipla throne. After his accession he assumed the name of Arjunsinhji.

Arjunsinhji had two sons, Ugraseni and Bhansinhji, of whom the former had died childless, during his father's life-time, and the succession, therefore, devolved on Bhansinhji, who, dying shortly after, was succeeded by his son, Gemalsinhji. It was during his reign that the Mussalmans, establishing an independent sovereignty in Gujarat, commenced their inroads upon Rajpipla, with a view to destroy its independence and reduce it to the position of a mere feudatory principality. In 1403, Sultan Ahmud conquered Rajpipla. A few years after (1416) Gemalsinhji died, leaving behind him two sons, Chhatrasalji and Vijayapalji. Chhatrasalji had died during his father's life time. So his younger brother, Vijayapalji, remained the sole heir to the *gadi*. Taking advantage of a revolutionary upheaval in the country, Vijayapalji succeeded in regaining his lost patrimony. He had two sons, Ramshahji *alias* Harisinhji and Surshahji, of whom the former succeeded him to the throne. During his reign, Sultan Ahmad led his troops against Rajpipla and overrunning the whole territory, drove Harisinhji out of the capital. Harisinhji had received in present valuable pearls, which he had got strung together into a necklace to adorn his

* For the account of this branch see the annals of Bhavnagar,

beauteous queen. Oft had he spoken to his wife that those pearls were of the best water, so once while flying before the rage of the Mahomedan Sultan, the Rani, overcome with intense thirst, exclaimed ' Did you not often say to me, my lord ! that these pearls contained water ; why not make use of it now and relieve me from the grip of death !!! ' A bard happening to know what had occurred in the *jungle*, has composed a very amusing verse (Kaviti) on that strange incident ;

- ' The Sultan led his martial troops in wrath,
- ' The Serpent (Shesha) pressed with weight did shake the earth,
- ' The gallant Rajputs of the Rewa slain,
- ' That tinged the dust with human gore, so red ;
- ' While flying thro' fear, O Shah ! the feet are sore,
- ' The queen of the land has fled to live on roots ;
- ' Tear thy string of pearls and rinse in mouth
- ' For oft the king hath said, there's water in them !!!'

Harisinhji roamed about in the woods for 12 years, but persevering in his attempts, he at last reconquered Rajpipla in 1443.

After the death of Harisinhji, the Rajpipla throne was successively occupied by Prithurajji, Dipaji, Karanbaji, Abherajji, Sajaansinhji, and Bhairavsinhji.

Rana Udayasinhji of Chitod, while flying before the Imperial troops, under the command of the great Emperor Akbar in person, was obliged to seek shelter in the hills surrounding the Rajpipla territory, and Bhairavsinhji unmindful of the Emperor's wrath, gave refuge to the head of the Sisodiya House.

Rajpipla got some breathing time between the years 1543 and 1583, during which period it remained free from any foreign invasion. Bhairavsinhji maintained its independence and paid no tribute to any supreme power. After his death Prithurajji was installed on the throne, but turning out a weak and an inefficient ruler, the government was solely carried on by a Brahman minister, known by his family name of Trawadi. At that time the Chief dwelt during a part of the year at Rajpipla, while during the remaining part he lived at Ghulva. He maintained an army consisting of 3000 horse and 7000 foot. The climate of Ghulva was insalubrious, surrounded as it was by rice fields and thick *jungles*. It was, however, famous for the rich savoury honey that could be obtained from the large combs

hanging on the trees. The independence of Rajpipla, however, did not last long. Emperor Akbar conquered the kingdom of Gujarat from the hands of Muzaffar in 1573, and three years later, he placed a detachment of cavalry at Nandod to keep the Raja of Rajpipla under subordination (1576). The Chief incurring the displeasure of the Mughal Sovereign and fearing the wrath of Muzaffar Shah, had to seek refuge in the neighbouring hills on three different occasions, during the ten years elapsing between 1583 and 1593. It was during this crisis that the Emperor for the first time levied on Rajpipla the tribute of 35,556 rupees a year.

After the death of Prithurajji the *gadi* was occupied by Dipsinhji, Durgashahji, Mohrajji, Rayashahji, Chandrasenji, Gambhirsinhji, Subherajji, Jayasinhji, Mulrajji, Shurmahji, Udekaranji, Chandrabaji, Chhatrasalji and Vairisalji I. During their reigns the Mughals often led their attacks on the Rajpipla territory.

In 1705 during the reign of Vairisalji I. the Marathas invaded and laid waste the southern districts of Gujarat, and against them the Mughal Emperor, Aurangzeb, despatched a large army under the command of Nazar Ali Khan and Jafar Khan Babi. The Mussalman officers, reaching Ratanpur, a village under Rajpipla, lay encamped with their followers on the outskirts of that village. Taking advantage of the internal dissensions raging in the Mahomedan camp, Dhanaji Jadav, the commander of the Maratha troops, made a sudden onslaught on the opposite army and put it to flight. During this encounter Jafar Khan Babi was taken prisoner. Dhanaji Jadav, however, released him, after extorting from him a large ransom, and the crest-fallen Mahomedan hastened to Patan.

Vairisalji I. died in 1715, leaving behind him two sons, Jitsinhji and Amarsinhji, of whom the elder, Jitsinhji, succeeded him to the *gadi*. While the Mughal Empire was gasping for life and the Maratha rule was yet in its rudimentary stage, Jitsinhji availed himself of that favourable juncture, with rare skill and foresight, and driving away a small detachment of Mughal troops, stationed at Nandod, he seized that district and held it on his own behalf. In 1730, Jitsinhji transferred his seat of government from Rajpipla to Nandod.

In 1754, Jitsinhji died leaving five sons, Gemalsinhji, Pratapsinhji, Hamirsinhji, Chandrasinhji and Pahadsinhji. Of these, the second son, Pratapsinhji, ascended the *gadi*, his elder brother, Gemalsinhji, having predeceased his father. During his reign, Damaji Rao Gaekwad, with the

permission of the Peshwa, overran the territory of Rajpipla in 1763, and established his claim to half the revenues obtained from Nandod, Bhalod, Variti and Govali.

Pratapsinhji had three sons, Rayasinhji, Kesharisinhji and Ajabsinhji, of whom the eldest, Rayasinhji, succeeded his father on his death in 1764. Damaji Rao Gaekwad married the niece of Raja Rayasinhji and in consideration of this connection, relinquished his claim to half the income derived from the above-mentioned four districts. The Gaekwad, however, continued to receive from the Rajpipla Chief 40,000 rupees every year and retained possession of four villages on the banks of the river Narbada. This settlement was arrived at in 1781, but subsequently Fattah Singh Rao Gaekwad arrived at Nandod with his large army and fixed the amount of the annual tribute at 49,000 rupees. The yearly income of Rajpipla, including land revenue and other cesses, then amounted to 345,580 rupees. Rayasinhji posted garrisons, consisting of 50 horse and 230 foot, at all the important stations within his dominions for the protection of his ryots against the aggression of foreign invaders. Of these outposts the one at Sagbara proved highly beneficial to the State. Through the liberality and sagacity of the officer appointed there, the main route between Gujarat and Khandesh which passed through that district, was opened for general traffic which led to such a great development of local trade that the transit duties alone levied by the Rajpipla State amounted every year from 40 to 50 thousand rupees.

In 1786 Ajabsinhji wrested the *gadi* of Rajpipla from the hands of his elder brother, Rayasinhji, and reigned there for 17 years, without establishing his legal right to the throne. In the contest for succession between the two brothers, Rajpipla suffered considerably. Ajabsinhji was a weak and incompetent ruler and the Gaekwad taking advantage of his weakness, enhanced his tribute every year, until the amount reached to 78,000 rupees in 1793. Besides this, Umed Vasava, the Bhil chieftain of Sagbara, rose against the central authority and calling to his aid Arab and Sindhi mercenaries, seized five Bhilodi districts in the neighbouring hills. He also put a stop to all traffic carried on by the Khandesh-Gujarat route, which entailed a heavy loss on the State treasury. The annual income of Rajpipla was reduced from 345,580 to 259,400 rupees. To add insult to injury Ramsinhji, the son of Ajabsinhji, obtaining the assistance of the Chauhan ruler of Mandwa, a principality to the north of the

Narbada, rose against his father, but foiled in his attempt to occupy Nandod, he withdrew to Mandwa. The Prince was married to the daughter of his ally, the Rana of Mandwa, and staying there for a few days he returned to Nandod, where he was arrested and imprisoned in a dungeon.

In 1803 died Ajabsinhji, leaving behind him three sons, Ramsinhji, Naharsinhji and Abhayasinhji. His eldest son, Madhavsinhji, had died during his life time, so the natural claimant to the *gadi* was Ramsinhji; but setting him aside, his younger brother, Naharsinhji, usurped the throne. The martial class was, however, in favour of Ramsinhji, who was released from prison and placed on the *gadi*. He was addicted to wine and women and remained engrossed day and night in gratifying his carnal desires. The State-affairs were entrusted to his menial favourites, who unscrupulously abused the authority thus vested in their hands. The Gaekwad, on being informed of the grave disorders prevailing at Rajpipla, marched thither at the head of his troops in 1805 and extorted from Ramsinhji as accession duty (*nazarana*) 150,000 rupees, and raised the amount of the annual tribute to 96,000 rupees. It was also stipulated that in addition to the above tribute the Raja should pay every year 4,000 rupees to the Gaekwad of Baroda.

Ramsinhji, who was freely indulging in his evil ways, was declared incompetent to carry on the government of Rajpipla, and the Gaekwad dethroning him in 1810, granted the *sanad* of succession to Pratapsinhji,* countersigned by way of guarantee by a British Political officer. A few months after the accession of Pratapsinhji, the dethroned Raja, Ramsinhji, breathed his last.

After the demise of Ramsinhji, his brother Naharsinhji pressed his claims to the *gadi*, alleging that Pratapsinhji was not the real son of his late brother by his Mandwa queen, but was born in a poor Rajput family, stealthily purchased by the Rani and publicly declared as her own son. Naharsinhji began to lay waste the rich districts of Rajpipla and harass the innocent ryots. A battalion of Gaekwadi troops arrived at Nandod in 1813, to put a stop to these internecine feuds and restore peace and order throughout the State. It was from that date that the officers of the Baroda government assumed to themselves the management of Rajpipla.

* He was only a foster-child of Ramsinhji.

In 1815 both Pratapsinhji and Naharsinhji agreed to settle their disputes amicably by appointing the Gaekwad as their arbitrator, in whose decision they mutually promised to acquiesce. Thus summoned by both the rivals to intercede in a family feud, the Gaekwad contrived to prolong the arbitration proceedings as much as possible in order to enable him to make his hold over Rajpipla stronger than ever. He took four years in making preliminary enquiries alone.

The British Government seeing that the Gaekwad, influenced by motives of self interest, was protracting the whole thing and that his officers were gradually obtaining a firm footing in the State, decided to take the arbitration out of the Gaekwad's hands and themselves undertake to bring about a speedy reconciliation between the rival claimants to the *gadi* of Rajpipla. They first resolved to have the matter settled by a Panchayat (Court of arbitration) consisting of Rayasinhji of Chhota Udepur and other minor chiefs of the Rewa Kantha Agency ; but this idea had to be given up, when it was known that the Raja of Chhota Udepur as well as the other Thakores were all directly or indirectly under the control of the Gaekwad, whose partiality for one party had become quite evident during the late proceedings. At last Mr. Willoughby, Assistant to the Resident of Baroda, was appointed in June 1820 to carefully investigate into the matter and decide as to who was the rightful claimant to the throne of Rajpipla. That distinguished officer gave his decision on 20th February 1821, against Pratapsinhji, who was declared to be a spurious child, and thus Naharsinhji was recognised as the rightful claimant to the throne. This decision was subsequently ratified by the Gaekwad, but as Naharsinhji was blind and unable to carry on the government, his son, Vairisalji II. was duly installed on the *gadi* on 15th November 1821. He had an elder brother, Lalji, who had died long before this date, while he had also a younger brother, whose name was Jagatsinhji.

The Gaekwad abandoned all his claims on the Rajpipla State in favour of the British Government, just as he had done in the case of the other Native States in Kathiawad and Mahi Kantha. It was also agreed in 1823 that the annual tribute of 65,001 rupees, payable by the Rajpipla Chief to the Gaekwad, should thenceforth be paid through the agency of the British Government. When the English thus obtained a general control over the affairs of Rajpipla, the State was found merged in heavy liabilities. Vairisalji II. was then but a minor, so the administration was entrusted to the care of British Officers. The Bhil chieftain of Sagbara, Rayasinh of Rohocha and

Baji Daima of Tilakwada were urging their claims against Rajpipla and were often plundering its villages and way-laying the innocent travellers. Mr. Willoughby's attention was soon drawn to these disturbances, and he resolved to suppress them. First of all, Kuwar, the Vasawa of Sagbara, surrendered himself to the British Official and agreed to remain quiet, but no sooner had he returned to his native town, than he again began plundering the neighbouring villages of Rajpipla. His following then consisted of 80 men, of whom there were 40 Bhils, 20 Arabs and 20 Sindhis. When hard-pressed by the English regiment, he opened negotiations with Mr. Willoughby, in which he demanded a general indemnity and a proper recognition of his claims, which being granted, he, on 22nd January 1822, repaired to his tent and laid his arms at his feet. He agreed not to shelter within his realms high-way robbers, outlaws, plunderers and such other lawless gangs and to behave in future as a subject of the Raja of Rajpipla. He also agreed to arrest, or by supplying information to the Government, bring to justice, those enemies to public peace who might take refuge within his territory. It was also settled that the Rajpipla government should employ at least 25 men from those who were then in the service of the Vasawa and that Kuwar's brother should stay at Nandod and serve the Raja with 12 of his retainers, receiving in return 125 rupees a month, from the Rajpipla treasury.

Though the disputes with Kuwar Vasawa were thus brought to a satisfactory termination, his father-in-law, Rayasinh of Rohocha, proved a little more refractory and untractable. He was as villainous as he was untruthful, and though he had a sweet tongue, his heart was full of deadly venom. He was tolerably rich and his followers were fifty in number. Though not an actual out-law, he still refused to present himself before the Political Officer, when called upon to do so. After the lapse of a few days, he did appear before the British Officer and agreed to disband his followers, keeping only 8 men in his service. He also gave security for good behaviour and was allowed to retain undisturbed possession of his estate. It remained now to suppress the third insurgent chief, Baji Daima, a Molesalam, who was way-laying the poor travellers. He was supported by two daring out-laws, Nasir Khan and Umed Khan, and a gang of Dhanka horse-men.

In the month of November 1823, Mr. Willoughby undertook in right earnest to apprehend those plunderers. He first sent a detachment in pursuit of them, but as the country was covered over with hills and thick

jungles, they often eluded their attention and it was deemed impossible to overtake them in their mountain retreats. Mr. Willoughby then resorted to other methods. He contrived to cut off their food supply and then employed in his service a Bhil chieftain to arrest the culprits, at the same time offering a rich reward to those who would apprehend them and bring them to his presence. Mr. Willoughby also sent them a word, through a bard, that if they quietly surrendered themselves to him, he would make suitable provision for their maintenance. Nasir Khan was the first to lay down his arms and supplicate for mercy (December 1823). Eight months later on, Umed Khan followed his example, and Baji Daima, now left alone, held out a month longer, when, at last, he, too, surrendered himself to the British Officer. They all agreed to take to peaceful pursuits, to acquiesce in his decision regarding their claims against Rajpipla and to cease giving support to any of the out-laws. Baji Daima further agreed to reside for five years in the Baroda Cantonment at his own expense.

Hardly was the British Officer, in charge of the State, able to establish peace in the interior of the province, when his attention was directed to a serious rising, on the frontiers of Khandesh, headed by two Bhil chieftains, Kuwar Jiva and Kalia Chamar. A detachment was sent against them, but on their offering a sufficient security for keeping peace, it returned without shedding a single drop of blood.

Though the British Government maintained only a general supervision over Rajpipla, it improved considerably under their fostering care. Not only did the State regain its independence, but the lawlessness prevailing in the districts, situated on the borders of Broach and Baroda, being suppressed with an iron hand, local trade and industry, which had long died out, also revived. The revenues of Rajpipla increased by leaps and bounds and the amount of 1,56,610, realized in 1822, rose within five years to 25,9480 rupees in 1827.

Raja Vairisalji II, attaining manhood, was invested with supreme powers in 1837, and in 1850 the British Government altogether withdrew even their general supervision.

The Gaekwad and the Chief of Rajpipla both held civil and criminal jurisdiction over the village of Karnali, situated within the Baroda territory. A settlement was then effected, by which the Raja surrendered his jurisdiction over Karnali, the Gaekwad in his turn relinquishing his claims to full civil and criminal jurisdiction over the villages of Rundh,

Kotara, Jechor, Bharan, and to partial jurisdiction over Poicha, Vasna, Rundh in Bhalod and Kakalpur.

The Gaekwad also handed over to the Raja the sole and unfettered management over the districts of Nandod, Bhalod, Panetha, and Govali, together with the rights of excise in the villages, situate within the district of Kotara, as also the wine-shops with all the Abkari rights and privileges in Rundh and Kotara. Under this settlement, brought about through the friendly intercession of the British Government, between the Gaekwad and the Raja of Rajpipla in 1852, the Raja agreed to pay to the Gaekwad through the British Agency, in consideration of his relinquishing the above-mentioned villages and rights, the sum of 13,351 rupees every year. The subjects of Rajpipla were by this arrangement relieved of all the evils attending a system of double government.

In 1859, Kuwar, the Bhil chieftain of Saghara, died, leaving behind him two sons, Lashkario and Dungario. Lashkario, the elder of the two, inherited the estate, but within a short period his nephew, Damji, son of Dungario, threw him into prison and himself assumed the sole management of the estate. The Political Agent and the Raja, Vairisalji, remonstrated with Damji to give over the Taluka to his uncle; but all in vain. At last a party of troops was sent against him, when he fled to the Bhil Agent at Khandesh and sought his protection. Lashkario, after all, of his own accord and free will abandoned his claims to the *jagir* in favour of his nephew, Damji, and even expressed his willingness to serve under him. It was arranged at that time that the Vasawa should realize only the land revenue of the estate, the income obtained from cesses and other sources should go to fill the Rajpipla treasury. Damji was also compelled to employ a Police force sufficiently strong to maintain peace and order throughout his Taluka. As a guarantee that he would observe the above mentioned terms and preserve peace, he named several Bhil chieftains as his sureties.

In 1859, the Supreme Government passed a Resolution, under which the State of Rajpipla was saddled with a cost of 20,000 rupees a year, to defray the expenses of Bhil regiments, stationed in Rajpipla and Gujarat. This amount was recovered for a few years, but was discontinued from 1865, when Government cancelled its former Resolution.

Vairisalji II., in 1860, obtained permission of the Paramount Power to entrust the management of his State to his eldest son, Gambhirsinhji, reserving to himself a general supervision and control over the whole administration. It was not long before the father and the son began to disagree on all important questions, and this disagreement was by degrees ripened into a feeling of bitter hatred and hostility. Such a state of affairs was speedily brought to the notice of the Government, and Vairisalji was compelled, in 1867, to give up all interference in the State, leaving Gambhirsinhji the sole master of the situation. This family feud was brought to a close by the death of Vairisalji II., which occurred in the month of August 1868.

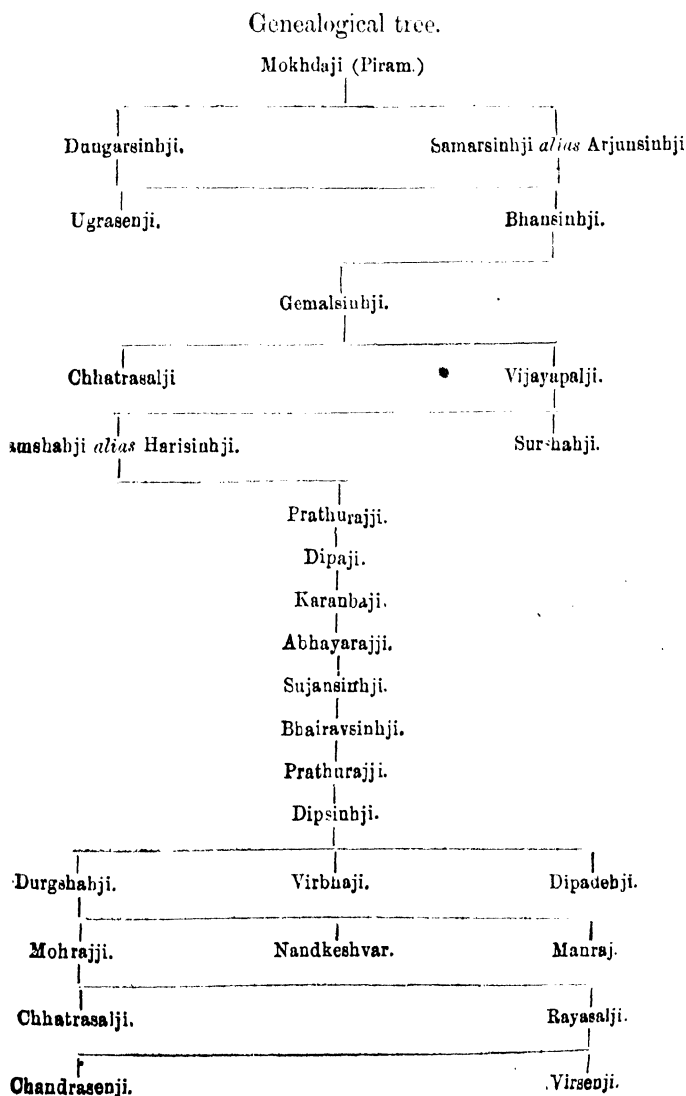
Another Bhil chieftain, named Umed, holding the estate of Vadi in this State, appointed his younger son, Narsai, his heir and successor, in supercession of his elder son, Kagu. Soon after Umed's death, Kagu pressed his claims to the estate and a contest arose between the two brothers for succession. The Raja of Rajpipla being unable to settle these disputes, the Political Agent interfered, and confiscating the estate of Vadi, placed it under the British control. Narsai was, meanwhile, engaged in collecting a small army, which being accomplished, he once made a night attack on the house of his elder brother, Kagu, and also fell with his followers on the house in which the British manager was residing. At last he was arrested and sentenced to undergo rigorous imprisonment (1871).

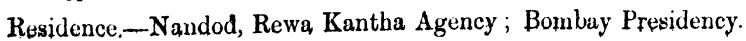
In 1875, Raja Gambhirsinhji went to Bombay to pay homage to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, and in 1877 he attended the Imperial Assemblage, held at Delhi, on the New year's day, under the presidency of H. E. Lord Lytton, on the assumption of the title of Empress of India by H. M. Queen Victoria. The Raja has six sons, Chhatrasinhji, Ramsinhji, Kiratsinhji, Digvijayasinhji, Narsinhji, and Prakrasmihji. The heir-apparent, as well as his other sons, have all received liberal education at the Rajkot Bajkumar College.

* In 1884, serious complaints of mal-administration reaching the ears of Government, a Commission under Col. Hancock was appointed to fully investigate into these complaints, and the Raja having been declared incompetent to rule, the State was placed under British management. In the beginning, the Administration was carried on by a British officer, Col. Stace, with whom the Raja was associated as a Joint Administrator, but the experiment having failed, Mr. Shewan I. C. S., a trusted officer of Govern-

ment was appointed sole Administrator. The post has since been occupied by Major Kennedy and then by Major Snell. Under these able Officers, the State improved considerably and the subjects have grown happy and contented.

Rajpipla being a first class State, its ruler holds superior judicial powers and is entitled to a salute of 11 guns.





SAILANA.

Area.—123 sq. miles. Population.—31,512.

Revenue.—1,50,000 rupees.

The rulers of Sailana are Rajputs of the Rathod tribe. It was founded by Jaya Sinh, the third son of Keshri Sinh, the Raja of Ratlam. After the death of Keshri Sinh, a contest arose for succession between his son, Man Sinh and brother, Pratap Sinh. A battle was fought near Sagod in 1709 between the troops of the rival claimants, which terminated in favour of the nephew, Man Sinh, who ascended the throne of Ratlam. During this family feud Jaya Sinh had supported the cause of his brother, Man Sinh, who, in return, conferred upon him the estate of Sailana. Jaya Sinh had five sons, Devi Sinh, Dolat Sinh, Jaswant Sinh, Samat Sinh and Ajab Sinh. Jaya Sinh was after his death succeeded by his eldest son, Devi Sinh. He died childless and was succeeded by his brother, Dolat Sinh. At the time of his accession, two of his brothers, Jaswant Sinh and Samat Sinh, had already died without issue. Ajab Sinh strongly opposed the elevation of his brother to the paternal *gadi* and assumed a hostile attitude towards Dolat Sinh. In the struggle that ensued Ajab Sinh, who, was strongly supported by the rulers of Ratlam and Sitaman, gained a complete victory over his brother, Dolat Sinh, who escaped to Simlia. Ajab Sinh was now securely seated on the *gadi* of Sailana. He conferred the fief of Simlia upon his brother, Dolat Sinh, who accepted the humbler position of a vassal to the Chief of Sailana. The throne of Sailana was after the death of Ajab Sinh successively occupied by Mahokam Sinh, Lakshman Sinh and Ratan Sinh. The last of them, dying without issue, was succeeded by his uncle, Nahar Sinh. After his death, Takhat Sinh inherited the Sailana estate. During the reign of the last two princes the Marathas had grown all powerful and Sindhia was reigning supreme throughout Central India. The greater portion of the Sailana estate was conquered by Sindhia's troops, who had levied a tribute of 42,000 *Salim Shahi* rupees from the reigning Chief of Sailana. In spite of this arrangement hordes of Sindhia's troops constantly plundered the villages under Sailana and harassed the helpless ryots.

At last, in 1819, Takhat Sinh solicited the protection of the British arms, and, through their mediation, a treaty was concluded, by which the payment of the tribute was guaranteed to Sindhia on the same terms as those under which the payment of the Ratlam tribute was guaranteed to him. Thus by the timely intercession of the British Power, Takhat Sinh

was securely established on his throne. He reigned till 1850, when after his death the Supreme Government acknowledged the claims of Dule Sinh, the late Chief. At the time of his accession Dule Sinh was only 12 years old and the management of the State, during his minority, was assumed by the British Government. A Council of Regency was appointed, headed by the senior widow of the late Raja. Mir Shahamat Ali, the Head Clerk to the Resident of Indore, was nominated Joint Superintendent, who conducted the administration of Sailana. On Dule Sinh's attaining the age of 20 years, in 1850, he was put in sole charge of his State.

By virtue of an agreement executed in 1864, the State ceded in 1891 sovereign rights to the British Government on lands required for the Godhra-Ratlam Railway, lying within its jurisdiction. Similarly on the strength of two agreements passed in 1880 and 1883, the State receives a money payment of 412-8 rupees in compensation for the abolition of transit duties on salt, passing through its territory, through the Political Agent, Western Malwa.

In 1885, Jaswant Sinh of Simlia was recognized as the heir of the Raja at his request by the Government.

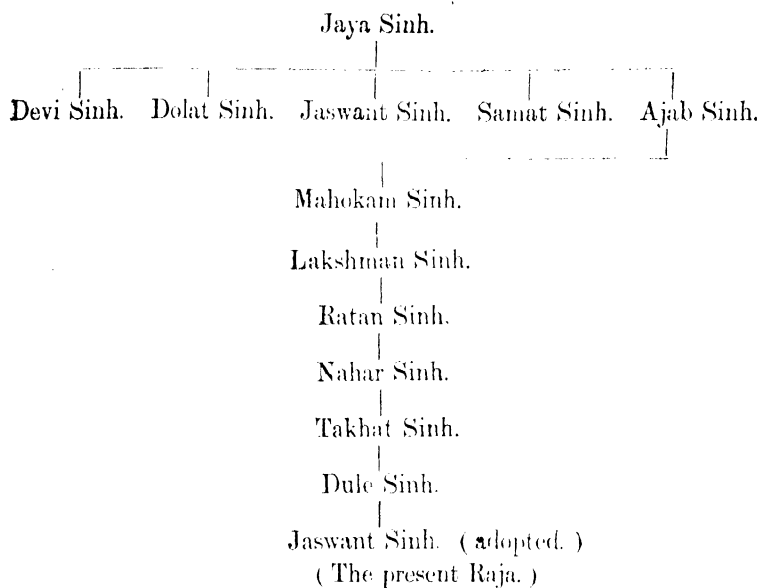
In 1887, an arrangement was arrived at, whereby the State undertook to pay 18,000 *Salim Shahi* rupees to the Ratlam State by way of compensation for its relinquishing its right to levy duties in Sailana. The State also abolished transit duties within its territory on all articles of consumption except opium, in the Jubilee year of Her Most Gracious Majesty.

Dule Sinh died in the month of October 1895. His adopted son, Jaswant Sinh, was installed on the *gadi* by Col. Barr, the Agent to the Governor-General for Central India, on 24th December 1895. He is the present Chief of Sailana. He has received his education at the Residency Rajkumar College at Indore.

The Raja of Sailana has judicial inferior powers and enjoys a salute of 11 guns.



Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Sailana, Western Malwa Agency : Central India.



SAMTHAR.

Area.—174 sq. miles. Population.—40,637.

Revenue.—4,00,000 rupees.

The dominions of the Samthar State are bounded on the north and west by the territories of Gwalior; on the south, by the district of Jhansi; and on the east, by the province of Jehlam.

The Rajas of Samthar are Rajputs of the Gujjar race. It was only in the year 1762 that the State was detached from the *Raj of Datia*. Datia was held in sway by the Peshwa at the time, and Samthar after its separation assumed complete independence. History has preserved no record of any important event in the State from the year 1762 to 1800. In 1805, when the combined forces of Sindhia and Holkar were eventually vanquished by the British arms, this State came under the protection of the British rule. Raja Ranjit Singh was at the helm of affairs at Samthar at this time. An agreement was effected between the Paramount Power and the State about this time, but it subsequently remained a dead letter, owing to the non-intervention policy of the new Governor-General, Lord Cornwallis. The treaty was violated, and Samthar retained its nominal independence till 1817. In that year a new treaty of alliance was again agreed upon, by virtue of which Samthar was for ever brought under the tutelage of the British. Ranjit Singh expired in 1827, and was succeeded on the *gauli* by the heir-apparent, Hindupat. This Chief, however, when he attained the age of majority, was affected by a serious malady of the brain; he became insane, and his young consort was appointed Regent, to conduct the administration on behalf of her husband. Hindupat never again regained sufficient mental powers to carry on the affairs of the State, and his wife, with the approval of the courtiers and her subjects, kept him under her control, and managed the State-affairs till her son, Chhatra Singh, who became subsequently known as Raja Bahadur, attained his years of discretion.

In 1864, of the two sons of Hindupat, Chhatra Singh, having attained the age of majority, submitted to the Government that he should be entrusted with the management of the State. His request was granted, and in the next year the *paragna* of Amra was assigned to the Rani for the maintenance of her husband, her second son, Arjun Singh, popularly known as Ali Bahadur, and herself.

In 1868, the State received the village of Sajauni in the Jalaun District in satisfaction of its claims to an annual payment of 730 rupees from the Jhansi villages, Manikpura and Nandpura.

Transit duties were abolished by the State in 1872.

At the Delhi Assemblage the obligation to pay *nazarana* on direct succession was discharged; a further mark of the good graces of the Government was evinced at the same august Assemblage by bestowing on Prince Chhtra Sinh the personal distinction of ' Maharaja. '

An agreement concluded in 1879 cast on the State an obligation to control the manufacture, import, export and taxation of salt; the Government in its turn undertook to supply 500 *maunds* of salt for consumption within the State.

The wife of Raja Hindupat died in 1880, but the assignment of the district was continued to Ali Bahadur for the support of his father and himself. His management was not satisfactory and it created difficulties in consequence of which Amra was restored to the State. Provision was made for the support of the ex-Chief and his son by assigning the village of Sami and certain cash allowances.

By revision of the agreement in 1884, an annual payment of 1,450 rupees was substituted for the supply of salt and certain other restrictions were removed as regards the export, import and transit of salt. Land was ceded for the construction of the Betwa canal in 1882, and the jurisdiction and other matters were settled by an agreement in 1888. In the same year, criminal and civil jurisdiction over lands acquired for the Indian Midland Railway was also ceded. The State generously refused to accept any compensation for the same.

The ex-Chief Hindupat died in 1890. No formal recognition of the succession of Chhatra Sinh was held to be needed owing to the long tenure of his actual management of the State.

The Chief of Samthar is entitled to a salute of 11 guns and enjoys the right of adoption.

THE HIND RAJASTHAN.

Genealogical tree.

Ranjit Sinh.

Hindupat.

Chhatra Sinh.

(The present Maharaja.)

Arjun Sinh.

(illegitimate.)

Residence.—Samthar, Bundelkhand; Central India.



SIRMUR.

Area.—1,108 sq. miles. Population.—124,134.

Revenue.— 2,10,000 rupees.

Sirmur means a crowned head. It was the residence of the Rajas, who ruled over it before the present dynasty entered the country. One of its ancient rulers is said to have been swept away by a flood in the river. It so happened that one Agar Sen Rawal, a relative of the ruler of Jaisalmer, arrived upon the spot, on his way to the sacred river Ganges, where he was proceeding on a pilgrimage. He appropriated to himself the throne which had been left vacant by the demise of the late Raja. This event is said to have occurred in 1095, and the descendants of Agar Sen are still reigning at Sirmur.

The Gurkhas conquered Sirmur in 1803; but the English, driving them away in 1815, restored it to its old Rajput ruler, by name Karan Prakash. This Chief was expelled on account of his imbecility and the *Raj* was conferred on his eldest son, Fattch Prakash. The British Government, however, rewarded the services of a Mahomedan officer by a grant of the *paragna* of Kutaha or Gurhi, which was taken from the Sirmur State. At last in 1833 the district of Khiarda Dun was once more resumed by the British Government, and the hilly tract, lying to the north of the river Giri, was bestowed upon the Raja of Keunthal, while the *paragnas* of Jaunsar and Bawar were annexed to the British dominions.

Samsher Prakash is the name of the present ruler of Sirmur. He was born in 1843, and succeeded to the *gadi*, after the death of his father, Raghubir Prakash, in 1857. He loyally assisted the English during the Mutiny of 1857, and the Paramount Power, pleased with his services, presented him with a rich dress of honor of the value of 5,000 rupees and a salute of 7 guns, which was increased to 11 guns in 1867. He went to Calcutta on 1st January 1876 to do homage to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, where he was decorated with the insignia of the Knight Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India.

Raja Samsher Prakash Bahadur K. C. S. I. also attended the Darbar held at Delhi, on January 1st 1877, on the assumption by H. M. Queen

Victoria of the title of the 'Empress of India.' In 1878, the Raja of Sirmur placed his troops at the disposal of the British Government and they were employed in the Kurram Valley.

In 1886, the salute of the Raja was increased from 11 to 13 guns, as a personal distinction, and in 1888 he was invested at Simla by Lord Dufferin, the Viceroy and Governor-General of India with the title of the Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India.

The Raja of Sirmur has been granted the right of adoption and enjoys a salute of 13 guns as a personal distinction, the usual salute of the State being 11 guns.

Genealogical tree.

Karam Prakash.

|

Fatteh Prakash.

|

Raghubir Prakash.

|

Samsher Prakash.

(The present Raja.)

Residence.—Sirmur, Punjab; Northern India.

SITAMAU.

Area.—350 sq. miles. Population.—33,307.

Revenue.—1,26,000 rupees.

The rulers of Sitamau are Rathod Rajputs, descended from the same stock as the Chief of Ratlam. This principality was first founded by Kesho Das, the illegitimate son of Ram Sinh, the Raja of Ratlam. Shiv Sinh ascended the throne of Ratlam after the demise of Ram Sinh. He dying without issue, the *gadi* was next occupied by Kesho Das, the illegitimate son of Ram Sinh, in spite of a strong resistance offered by the leading nobility of the realm. He subsequently incurred the displeasure of the Emperor of Delhi, and had to fly from Ratlam, leaving the throne in the hands of Chhatra Sal. During the latter part of Chhatra Sal's reign, great disorder prevailed throughout the territory, and Kesho Das, taking advantage of the prevailing anarchy, appropriated to himself Sitamau and the adjacent tracts of land, and established a separate chieftdom. Kesho Das thus became the first ruler of Sitamau. He was, after his death, succeeded by his son, Gaj Sinh. He was reigning at Sitamau, when Emperor Mahmud graced the Imperial throne at Delhi. The Marathas were already in power and Gaj Sinh had frequently to wage war against the marauding bands of these freebooters. Gaj Sinh was succeeded by Fattch Sinh, who continued the hostilities with the Marathas. It is said that Dost Mahmud Khan, the founder of the Bhopal principality, was for some time employed in the service of this monarch. Raj Sinh ascended the throne of Sitamau after the death of his father, Fattch Sinh. During his reign the Maratha generals under Sindhia and Holkar ravaged a great portion of his territories and laid waste vast tracts of fertile land. Sindhia extended the limits of his dominions upto the gates of Sitamau and exacted from the reigning Chief an annual tribute of 60,000 *Salim Shahi* rupees. Besides this, Sindhia placed some of his generals at Sitamau, which event permanently enhanced his influence in that part of the country. The reigning Chief fled from the oppression of these Sardars and took up his abode at a small village, named Badanna. When a general settlement was effected between the chiefs of Malwa and the British Government, represented by General Malcolm, the Chief of Sitamau, too, entered into an alliance with the Paramount Power on the 21st of November 1820. Under

the terms of this agreement it was arranged that the chiefs of Sitamau should continue to pay to Sindhia the annual tribute of 60,000 rupees in four instalments. If any one of these instalments became over-due through the remissness of the reigning Prince, the British Government were empowered to set apart a portion of the Sitamau territories and appropriate its income towards the payment of the stipulated tribute. This condition was inserted on the ground that the British Government had taken upon themselves the responsibility of regularly paying the tribute to Maharaja Sindhia. Daulat Rao Sindhia on the other hand agreed not to send his troops to levy tribute from the reigning Chief of Sitamau, nor to interfere in the internal management of the State, nor to espouse the cause of one party against the other in any dispute that might hereafter arise as regards the right of succession to the *gadi*. This latter agreement was passed between the Raja of Sitamau and Maharaja Sindhia, represented by his Sardar, Bapu Sindhia, through the mediation of the British General, Sir John Malcolm. This arrangement secured for the Chief of Sitamau an undisturbed and a peaceful possession of his hereditary throne.

During the Mutiny of 1857, the reigning Prince, Raj Sinh, of Sitamau remained unswerving in his devotion towards the British Crown, and a rich dress of honor was presented to him in token of his friendship and attachment to the Imperial throne. The Chief who then reigned at Sitamau was of a very kind and affable disposition. He had two sons, Ratan Sinh and Abhaya Sinh, both of whom died during the life-time of their aged parent. Struck down with grief, the Raja expired in 1867, and was succeeded by his grand-son, Bhawani Sinh.

In accordance with an agreement arrived at, in 1881, with the Government, Raja Bhawani Sinh abolished all transit duties on salt passing through his territory in consideration of an annual payment of 2,000 rupees by way of compensation to be paid through the Political Agent, Western Malwa.

After reigning for 18 years, Bhawani Sinh died, and was succeeded by the present ruler, Bahadur Sinh, who ascended the *gadi* on the 8th December 1885.

On the occasion of Raja Bahadur Sinh's accession, Maharaja Sindhia put forward certain claims against the State to receive *nazarana* and

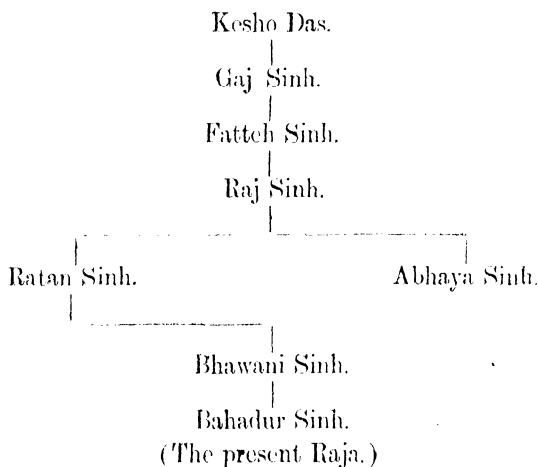
to be consulted on questions regarding succession. They were held to be untenable on the terms of the guarantee held by the State, and being a mediatized first class Chiefship, payment of *nazarana* was due to the Government alone.

At the time of the formal installation, a *khilat* of 8,875 rupees was presented to the Chief.

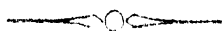
In the Jubilee year of Her Most Gracious Majesty, all transit duties, except those on opium and wood, were abolished in the State.

The Raja of Sitamau has been granted the right of adoption and receives a salute of 11 guns.

Genealogical tree.



Residence. — Sitamau, Western Malwa Agency ; Central India.



SUKET.

Area.—404 sq. miles. Population.—52,403.

Revenue.—1,00,000 rupees.

The rulers of Suket are Rajputs, and are styled Rajas. It was united with the State of Mandi till the year 1200, when owing to internal dissensions it was severed from that State. It was, in the present century, subjugated by the Sikhs, but after the peace of Lahore in 1846, it was finally restored to Raja Agar Sen, on condition of his paying to the British Government an annual tribute of 11,000 rupees. A *sanad* of adoption was granted to the reigning prince in 1862. Agar Sen died in 1875, and was succeeded by his son, Rudra Sen. He was born in 1828.

Rudra Sen was present at the Imperial Assemblage held at Delhi, the ancient capital of India, on January 1st 1877, by H. E. Lord Lytton, the Viceroy and Governor-General, on the occasion of the assumption by H. M. Queen Victoria of the proud title of 'Empress of India'.

Raja Rudra Sen was found to be completely incapable to carry on the government and was consequently deposed in 1878. As Ari Mardan, the eldest son of the ex-Chief, died at the close of the year, his second son, Dusht Nikandan Sen, was installed on the *gadi* in the next year. The State was placed under a Council of Regency assisted by a Government official till the attainment of majority by the young Raja in 1884, when he was entrusted with full powers. His deposed father died two years later.

The administration of Dusht Nikandan Sen has given rise to many complaints and the Government of Punjab gave him a year's trial for the improvement of the State-affairs, and deputed an Assistant Commissioner to act as the Chief's counsellor at his own request.

The Raja of Suket has judicial inferior powers and enjoys a salute of 11 guns.

SUKET.

(759)

Genealogical tree.

Agar Sen.

Rudra Sen.

Ari Mardan Sen.

Dusht Nikandan Sen.

(The present Raja.)

Residence.—Suket, Punjab ; Northern India.



GARHWAL TEHRI.

Area.—5,000 sq. miles. Population.—1,99,836.

Revenue.—1,75,509 rupees.

The rulers of the State are Kshatriyas of the Lunar race, and are officially styled 'Rajas'. For several generations they ruled over the vast tract of land on both the banks of the Alaknanda river. About fifteen hundred years ago, the region in the fertile valley of the Alaknanda was divided into several chief-ships. By the middle of the fourth and the beginning of the fifth century, Raja Ajaya Pal of Chandpur reduced to subjection all these chief-ships, and founded on their overthrow an independent kingdom, of which Shrinagar was made the capital. He built a gorgeous palace in Shrinagar for his residence, the remains of which are still visible there. The descendants of this branch of the family were known as *Chandravanshi*, who enjoyed uninterruptedly their rule over that district till 1803. One of them, named Pradyuman Sah, was the governor of Almora. With the exception of this single event, no record is to be had of their ancient history, but they are said to have enjoyed undisputed sway over the whole kingdom, and their subordination to the throne of Delhi was testified by the single circumstance of their payment of some nominal tribute. In 1804, Pradyuman Sah was driven away from Almora by the Gurkhas, and his son Sundar Sen Sah escaped to Dehra. Their reduction to poverty at the end of the Gurkha War in 1815 excited the commiseration of the British Government, who granted them a *sanad* in the month of March 1820, restoring to them the kingdom to the west of the Alaknanda, but reserving the eastern districts of Dehra Dun and Garhwal. In 1857 Raja Sundar Sen Sah rendered valuable services to the Government; he died after two years, in 1859. He was succeeded by his illegitimate son, Bhawani Sah, who died in 1871.

Raja Pratap Sah was now enthroned as the king of Garhwal. He was born in 1850. After his accession he introduced many social and political reforms in the State under the advice of Honourable Major-General Sir Henry Ramsay C. B. K. C. S. I., the Commissioner of Garhwal and Kumaon. The opening of schools and hospitals, the laying down of *pucca* roads and the erection of travellers' Bungalows were the main features of his regime.

He attended the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi, where the salute in his honour was raised to eleven guns as a personal distinction.

Raja Pratap Sah expired in February 1887, and was succeeded by his son, Kirti Sah, who was a minor. During his minority the administration was conducted by a Council of Regency presided over by Rani Guleri, the mother of the Raja; he was sent to study at the Mayo College, Ajmere. On his attaining the age of majority he was entrusted with the sole management of the State in March 1892.

The Raja of Garhwal has judicial inferior powers and receives a salute of 9 guns.

Genealogical tree.

Pradyuman Sah.

|

Sundar Sen Sah.

|

Bhawani Sah.

|

Pratap Sah.

|

Kirti Sah.

(The present Raja.)

Residence.—Tehri, North West Provinces; Northern India.



MALER KOTLA.

Area.—162 sq. miles. Population.—75,755.

Revenue.—2,84,000 rupees.

The rulers of Maler Kotla are Mussalmans of the Pathan tribe. Their ancestor, Shaikh Sadar-ud-Din, first arrived in this country from Kabul at the end of the 15th century, of the Christian era. He was fortunate enough to secure the hand of one of the daughters of the then reigning Afghan Emperor of India, and the loving father conferred upon his daughter in dowry some portion of the Sirhind territory. Bazid Khan flourished in his line, five degrees removed from him, and he received from the Emperor, Alamgir, the title of 'Nawab'. It was he who founded Maler Kotla in the year 1657. On the decline of the great Mughal Empire in the 18th century, the rulers of Maler Kotla encroached upon vast tracts of foreign land and established an independent principality.

In 1732, Jamal Khan, the Nawab of Maler Kotla, securing the assistance of the English, marched against Ala Singh, the Sikh ruler of Patiala. He, in 1761, supported the English in driving away the officers posted in Sirhind by the great Afghan conqueror, Ahmad Shah Abdali. This led to a long and deadly struggle between the Nawab and his neighbouring chiefs, headed by the Raja of Patiala. In one of these encounters Nawab Jamal Khan was slain. A dispute arose after his death among his sons for succession, which resulted in the installation of Bhikhan Khan on the *gadi*. Soon after the departure of Ahmad Durani, Amar Singh, the Chief of Patiala, marched against Bhikhan Khan to avenge past injuries, and seized upon certain villages under Maler Kotla. At last the Nawab sued for peace, and tranquillity reigned throughout the province for several succeeding years.

The Nawab of Maler Kotla, during this reign of peace, on several occasions, lent his aid to the chief of Patiala in times of difficulty. When the Sardar of Bhadaur appropriated to himself several villages belonging to the Nawab of Maler Kotla, in 1787, Saheb Singh of Patiala assisted Sikandar Ali Khan in getting them back from the possession of the usurper. In 1794 Badi Saheb Singh, one of the descendants of Baba Nanak, invaded Maler Kotla and defeated the army of the Nawab, who, at once, fled to his capital and shut its gates against the enemy. Badi Saheb Singh proceeded

onwards and besieged the capital. The Raja of Patiala ran to the succour of the Nawab and Badi Saheb Singh was forced to cross the Sutlej and return to his dominions. From 1788 the Marathas were in the ascendant in these parts of the country. In 1805, the Nawab sided with the English in their struggle with Holkar. The British Government took the principality of Maler Kotla under their protection in 1809. Maharaja Ranjit Singh conquered Faridkot in 1808, and marching on to Maler Kotla, demanded from the Nawab the sum of one *lakh* of rupees. The English at once despatched a contingent to assist the Nawab against the invader, but the campaign was soon terminated by the conclusion of a treaty in 1809. A *sanad* was granted to the Nawab by the British Government in 1862, conferring upon him certain rights and privileges. Nawab Sikandar Ali Khan died in July 1871, and was succeeded by Mahmud Ibrahim Ali Khan, who was born in 1857. He abolished all transit duties within his dominions. In consideration whereof the British Government agreed to pay him annually a sum of 2500 rupees.

The present Chief of Maler Kotla, Nawab Ibrahim Ali Khan, was a minor at the time of his ascension to the *gadi*. At that time steps were taken to modify a custom which obtained in the family and which when in its full swing had the most disastrous effects on the well-being of the State and the peace of the family. It was customary in the family to partition off the share of any member, dying without issue among all the surviving male descendants of their ancestor, Jamal Ali Khan; an additional share being allotted to the ruling Chief; and that all the relations of the Nawab enjoyed sovereign rights over the subjects, owning simply a general subordination to him. The result was that the State was badly managed and the family divided by bitter dissensions. The modification was in the direction of limiting the exercise of those rights to present possessors only, and in restricting the full play of the pernicious custom to one only of the two portions into which the Chief's holding was to be divided.

Nawab Ibrahim Ali Khan attained the age of eighteen in 1875, when he was entrusted with the management of his State, under the control of the Commissioner of Umballa, till he reached the age of twenty-one.

The Nawab attended the Imperial Assemblage, held at Delhi on January 1st 1877, under the presidency of H. E. Lord Lytton, the then

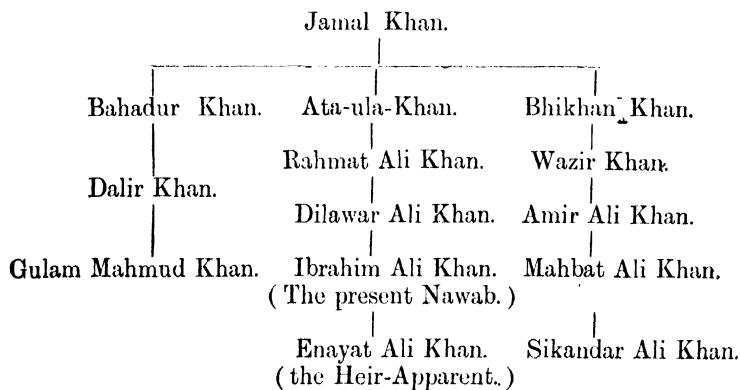
Viceroy of India, to proclaim the assumption by H. M. Queen Victoria of the proud title of 'Empress of India'. The reigning Nawab of Maler Kotla was there honoured with an increase in the salute from 9 to 11 guns, as a personal distinction.

Owing to the mental incapacity of the Nawab, the State was placed in 1885 temporarily under the immediate supervision of the Commissioner of Delhi.

The Nawab of Maler Kotla has been granted the right of adoption. Ibrahim Ali Khan, the present Nawab, receives a salute of 11 guns as a personal distinction, the usual salute of the State being 9 guns only.

Genealogical tree.

Shaikh Sadar-ud-Din Khan, Shaikh Isa Mahmud Isa, Fattah Mahmud Khan, Bazid Khan, Firoz Khan, Sher Mahmud Khan and



Residence.—Maler Kotla, Punjab; Northern India.

CHAPTER VII.

STATES ENTITLED TO A SALUTE OF 9 GUNS.



ALI-RAJPUR.

Area.—836 sq. miles. Population.—70,091.

Revenue.—85,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the Jhalod sub-division of the Panch Mahals District of the Bombay Presidency and the State of Jhabua under Bhopawar Agency in Central India; on the north-east, by the States of Jhabua and Jobat; on the south-east, by the State of Barwani; on the west, by the States of Chhota Udepur and Baria under Rewa Kantha Agency; and on the south by the District of Khandesh.

The ancient history of this State is shrouded in obscurity, and no authentic account has come down to us for the period preceding the 17th century of the Christian era. It has, however, been chronicled that one Raya Sinh, the Rana of Ali-Rajpur, was married to Masmāt Devi, the daughter of Rana Linji of Barwani. Raya Sinh appears to have ruled at Ali-Rajpur at a time when the Imperial sceptre was held by Emperor Shah Jahan. He was succeeded by Rana Jasrup Sinh, who in his turn was succeeded by Pratap Sinh. He was constantly harassed by the

Maratha Chief of Dhar, who plundered his dominions. A Makarani adventurer named Musafir, then sought employment at the Court of Ali-Rajpur, which being granted, he strengthened the State Militia by adding several Makaranis and other daring mercenaries to its number. He at last measured strength with the Dhar chieftain, whom he defeated. He then began to plunder the territories of the Dhar Chief. He completely threw the Rana in the shade, and Ali-Rajpur began to be known as Musafir's Ali-Rajpur. After some time Pratap Singh died without issue. His nephew, Keshari Sinh, endeavoured to seize the *gadi*, but Pratap Singh's widow, who was big with child at the time of her husband's death, gave birth to a posthumous son, who was named Jaswant Singh. Musafir espoused the cause of the infant prince and defeating Keshari Sinh, drove him out of Ali-Rajpur. It was at this period that the British Power was first established in Malwa. Musafir was the only Makarani adventurer allowed by the British Government to remain in Malwa. He proved very useful in expelling the Makaranis and other foreign tribes, that had long been carrying on plunders and depredations throughout the province. Musafir was also recognised as the Manager of Ali-Rajpur during the minority of the infant prince, Jaswant Singh. In 1818, an engagement was mediated between Musafir on behalf of the Rana of Ali-Rajpur and the Chief of Dhar, by which it was settled that in lieu of the annual tribute, alleged to be 20,000 rupees payable by Ali-Rajpur to Dhar, the former should make over to the latter all the proceeds derived from the *sagar* duties. These duties, however, were not only unproductive, but the collection of them by Dhar officials led to constant disputes between the two States. With a view to obviate these difficulties, the British Government intervened and undertook to realize from the Ali-Rajpur State 11,000 rupees a year, out of which 10,000 rupees were to be paid to the Dhar government, and the remaining 1,000 rupees (subsequently reduced to 250 rupees only) to be appropriated towards the maintenance of a Police force established for the protection of the province.

Jaswant Singh died on 17th March 1862. He left a will by which he distributed the State between his two sons. After consulting the neighbouring chiefs the British Government decided that the partition of the State was illegal, and the will was consequently set aside. His elder son, Gangdeo, was recognised as his heir and successor. A dress of honor

was conferred on him by the British Government while a *nazarana* of 1500 rupees was exacted from the new Rana. He was, however, found incompetent to efficiently carry on the administration. In 1869 the British Government thought it expedient in the interests of the State to depose Gangdeo and assume management of the State. The Chief was granted an allowance of 1,000 rupees per mensem, and the management was entrusted to one, Mahmud Najab Khan, who was appointed Superintendent. Rupdeo, the younger brother of the ex-Chief, was associated with Najab Khan as Joint-administrator of the State. The debts incurred by the Chief amounted to 1,40,000 rupees. To enable the Managers to liquidate these liabilities a loan of 20,000 rupees, repayable in two years, was granted by the Supreme Government.

Gangdeo, whom excesses of debauchery had rendered imbecile, died in March 1871. His younger brother, Rupdeo, who was already managing the State, was duly recognised as his successor, but it was at the same time decided to make no change in the prevailing form of administration, until the Chief should shew some conspicuous merit for efficiently carrying on the government. At last in 1873, Rupdeo was entrusted with power and was put in independent charge of the State. He, however, died in 1881, without leaving any male issue. As no *sanad* of adoption had been granted to the deceased Chief, the British Government might have claimed it by right of escheat, but the exercise of that right was withheld and it was decided to find out a rightful successor to the *godi*. The Chief of Dharampur and the Thakores of Miyagaon and Phulmal pressed their claims, but the choice of Government ultimately fell upon Vaje Sinh, the Thakore of Sondwa, whose family was directly connected with the reigning house of Ali-Rajpur, and whose claims were warmly supported by the Ranis and the leading courtiers of the State. Jit Sinh, the Thakore of Phulmal, who had always ranked above the Sondwa Thakore at the court of Ali-Rajapur, was deeply incensed at the selection of one, who was inferior to him in every respect. At that time the administration of the State was carried on by the new Diwan, Rai Bahadur Venkat Rao. He adopted the short sighted policy of offending the Bhil Patels and Tarwis by interfering with their hereditary customs. Jit Sinh taking advantage of the situation, induced the Bhil and Bhilala leaders, Bhawan and Chitu, to join him in a rising, in which the Makaranis, headed by Dad Mahmud, were also induced to join. The malcontents plundered several villages and at last threatened Ali-Rajpur, but were dispersed by

a party of the Bhil corps. Dad Mahmud, the Makarani leader, was shot in a skirmish, while Chitu and Bhawan were captured and brought to justice. Jit Singh fled to Gujarat, where he died and his estate lapsed to the State.

In 1887, to commemorate the Jubilee of the Queen Empress all transit duties throughout the State were abolished during the minority of Rana Vaje Singh.

Vaje Singh remained at the Rajkumar College, Indore, till 1888, when he returned to Ali-Rajpur. The management of the State was then in the hands of Thakore Jawan Singh, who was appointed Superintendent of Ali-Rajpur and made a Rao Bahadur in 1890. The young Rana expired on the 16th August 1890. Pratap Singh of Sondwa, cousin of the late Chief, was selected in 1891, to succeed him to the *gadi*.

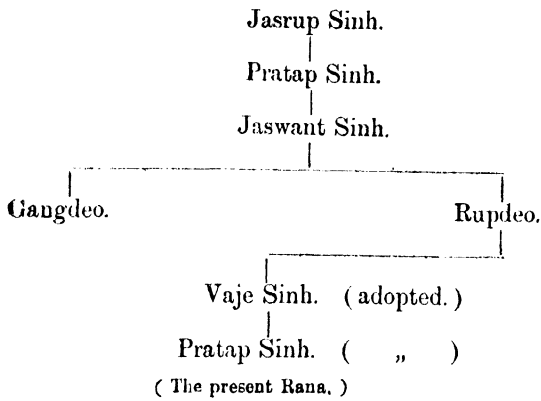
It was at the same time publicly declared that Pratap Singh succeeded in virtue of his selection by the Supreme Government and not in consequence of any natural or artificial relationship with the deceased Chief. The ruling house at Dharampur preferred its claims on this occasion also, but they were rejected. Pratap Singh was formally installed on the *gadi* in March 1892. The State is managed by a *Karbhari*, under the direct control of the Political Agent.

The State of Ali-Rajpur contributes by an agreement passed in 1868 1,475 rupees a year towards the cost of the Malwa Bhil corps. There is also another agreement, signed in 1864, by which the State has laid itself under an obligation to cede to the British Government full jurisdiction over any lands which might be required for the construction of a Railway.

The Rana of Ali-Rajpur has judicial inferior powers and is entitled to a salute of 9 guns.



Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Ali-Rajpur, Bhopawar Agency ; Central India.



BALASINOR.

Area.—189 sq. miles. Population.—53,249.

Revenue.—1,42,750 rupees.

Balasinor is ruled over by Mahomedan Nawabs of the family of Babis; the State is situated in the north-west of Rewa Kantha. On the north it is bounded by some districts of Mahi Kantha; on the east by Lunawada; on the south by the Taluka of Thasra in the Kaira District, and on the west by the Taluka of Kapadvanj.

The old history of Balasinor has not yet come to light: however, it is conjectured that the Mahomedan supremacy over that district commenced from the year 1505, when the celebrated Mahmud Begara, the Mughal Shah of Gujarat, sent the *elite* of his cavalry against the Rajput kingdom of the Solankis at Virpur, which he succeeded in crushing by the force of his arms. The rulers of the State are Nawabs, descended from the Babi family. The founder of the *Raj* was one Bahadur Khan, a native of Afghanistan, who came down, like an adventurer, to India in the early years of the reign of Shah Jahan, the grand-son of the great Akbar, in the beginning of the 17th century. In 1654, when Prince Murad came down as a Viceroy to his satrapy of Gujarat, Bahadur Khan, then a courtier at Delhi, sent his own son, Babi Sher Khan, to accompany the Prince.

Babi Sher Khan proved to be a very capable officer. His competence and firmness of mind won for him the *thandarship* of the district of Chunval in 1659. The district was infested by riotous and lawless bands of brave Kolis, and an able officer of the stamp of Sher Khan was very sorely needed to keep them under efficient control. Sher Khan had four sons, of whom Mahmud Mubariz Khan was in 1674 appointed *Subedar* of Kadi. The second, Mahmud Muzaffar, had also served in the same capacity at Kadi before him. The third was Jaffar Khan, whose descendants were ordained to be the mighty Nawabs of Junagarh, Radhanpur, Balasinor and Bantwa. The fourth son was Baz Khan, and the *jagir* of Ranpur in the Junagarh State is still enjoyed by his descendants. In 1690, Jaffar Khan was appointed *thandar* of Chunval in place of his father, Sher Khan. He performed his duties with marked ability and was rewarded with the grant of the honorific title of “Safdar Khan”; he was also promoted to the rank of a Naib-Suba at Patan.

In 1698, Gujarat was distracted by the quarrels and dissensions between the two rival Subas, Sujat Khan and Jaffar Khan; to escape the evil consequences, which might ensue from the struggle, Babi Jaffar Khan resigned his place as Naib-Suba, and proceeded to Malwa. He only returned to Gujarat, when the rule of Viceroy Sujat Khan had come to an end.

In 1703, Durgadas Rathod, who had been a Suba at Patan, created great disturbance in Gujarat by his revolt. Babi Jaffar Khan expressed his willingness to capture the person of the rebel and to kill him; and he so far succeeded in his undertaking that the Rathod was finally seized and expelled from the territory. Pleased with this exploit, the Emperor of Delhi confirmed him again in his old appointment as the Naib-Suba of Patan; and in 1704 the district of Bijapur was also committed to his hands.

At this period, the incursions of Maratha freebooters had become very frequent in the southern part of Gujarat. The whole land was overrun by them, and Nazar Ali Khan and Babi Jaffar Khan were instantly ordered to march against the foes. The two generals encamped at Ratanpur, in the dominions of Rajpipla; they were, however, estranged from each other by hostile feelings of mutual envy. Dhanaji Jadav, the leader of the Maratha troops, took them by surprise and charged them with such vigour that the Mahomedan army was soon scattered and their soldiers ran away in all directions. The son of Jaffar Khan was killed in the fray, and he himself was taken prisoner. Dhanaji Jadav extorted from him a very heavy ransom and being thus freed, he once again returned to Patan.

A few days after, Durgadas Rathod again rebelled, and the Mughal Emperor ordered Jaffar Khan to seize the person of the rebel alive, or to kill him in the fight, and offered him the prospect of a Subaship in reward. Durgadas was slain and the triumphant Babi was exalted to the high rank of a Suba. It was from this date that Jaffar Khan was looked upon as a prominent Mughal *Umrao* of the first rank and dignity in Gujarat. He was honoured by a very large circle of friends and admirers and his sons were nominated to high posts in the kingdom. One of them, Mahmud Sher, was honoured with the title of "Khan Jahan, Jawan Mard Khan" and obtained the grant of Radhanpur in 1716. His descendants became the Nawabs of Radhanpur. Salabat Mahmud Khan, another son

of the Babi, was first invested with the Subaship of the District of Gohilwad and then the district of Viramgam was also bestowed upon him.

In the year 1722, when Salabat Mahmud Khan was ruling as the Suba of Viramgam, his son, Mahmud Bahadur, was vested with criminal powers over the districts surrounding Ahmedabad; and subsequently he was created Suba of Sadra and Virpur, with the honorific title of "Sher Khan". Dalil Khan and Jaman Khan were the other two sons of Salabat Mahmud and the present Babi chiefs of Bantwa trace their descent from them.

Salabat Mahmud Khan, in the latter years of his life, had Gogha and Balasinor added to his *jagir*; and leaving these possessions behind him he died in 1730. The year 1732 was marked in the history of Gujarat by the vile assassination of Pilaji Rao Gackwad by Rathod Abhaya Sinh at Dakor. Subsequently the management of the affairs at Baroda was entrusted by the Rathod to Babi Mahmud Bahadur, Sher Khan, the eldest son of Salabat Mahmud Khan. The Babi was, however, soon expelled from Baroda by the troops of Madhji Gackwad, a brother of Pilaji, who advanced from Jambusar and attacking the city, wrested it from his hands. The Babi had to abandon the possession of the capital, and by forced marches he retired to Balasinor.

The province of Sorath, in Kathiawad, was at this period governed by Mir Hazbar Khan, a brother-in-law of Sams-ud-Daula, who was a prominent Sardar of the Imperial Court at Delhi, and he was the last *Jagirdar*, who held sway over the land under the suzerainty of the Mughals. He conducted the administration of the province through his assistant, and one Shorab Khan worked in that subordinate post at this period. After him one Meherab Khan, an uncle of Hazbar Khan, held the Assistant's post for a while; but he could not long retain his office, for he was superseded by Mir Daulat Ali, whose nomination to that post had been confirmed by the supreme government of Delhi.

These constant changes of viceroys occasioned great disturbance in the province of Sorath, which now became a hot-bed of intrigues and conspiracies. Daulat Ali, the Naib-Suba, also, was incompetent to discharge the arduous duties attached to his post, and proved quite unequal to the occasion. Babi Mahmud Bahadur was now summoned to his assistance to preserve peace and order in the territory. The Babi had once been an *Ijardar* of Sorath, and was perfectly acquainted with the land and its men. Daulat Ali called him to Junagarh and entrusted him with the

task of maintaining order in the province, and promised him, in 1738-39, the cession of half of his own *jagir* in Sorath, in consideration of this service and also to enable him to pay the expenses of his army.

Mahmud Bahadur at first acquitted himself with great skill, perseverance and assiduity of purpose; but when he rose to the consciousness that his own authority over the land had been firmly fixed, he gave free vent to his oppressive and tyrannical nature and his rule became so flagrantly obnoxious as to scare away Daulat Ali from the realm. The latter was quite tired beyond all endurance of the high-handed demeanour of his violent colleague, and at last had to fly away from the province, leaving Mahmud Bahadur the sole and uncontested master of his own situation.

A few days after, Mir Hazbar Khan, the *Jagirdar* of Sorath, expired, and all criminal jurisdiction over the province passed thence into the hands of the new Suba, Himat Ali Khan. This Suba was a cousin of Mirza Jaffar *alias* Momin Khan, who was the Mughal Viceroy of Gujarat at the time. With a view to remove Mahmud Bahadur from Junagarh and appoint one of his own relatives to that important post, Himat Ali sued his kinsman, Momin Khan, for help. The Suba of Gujarat was, however, quite unable to render any assistance to his cousin, owing to the incessant inroads of the Marathas on his own province. In 1740-41, he at last made up his mind to send an expedition against Junagarh for the purpose of expelling the Babi from the city, but when he found that he had not sufficient strength to cope with him, he at once renounced his undertaking.

Babi Mahmud Bahadur, though occupied with the affairs of Sorath, had not ceased to take interest in, and meddle with, the administration of Gujarat. That province was, at this period, distracted by the wars between opposite Maratha factions, headed on the one side by Rangoji, a lieutenant under Umabai, and on the other by Punaji Vithal, Trimbak Rao and Fakar-ud-Daulah. Hostilities were commenced by Rangoji, who summoned Mahmud Bahadur from Sorath to his own assistance. There was, however, great disaffection in the troops of the Babi, for their pay had long run into arrears, and as he could not trust his own men he had to forgo this opportunity of interfering in the affairs of Gujarat. A few days after, the Babi regained sufficient confidence in his own soldiers and led them to invade the districts of Mahudha and Nadiad, which they plundered. From thence he directed his course towards Kapadvanj, but

on the way he fell in with the Maratha army, which had tried to way-lay him. In the skirmish the Babi lost many of his men in slain and wounded. He fled away by the darkness of night, and by forced marches hastened to Kapadvanj, where he joined the army of Rangoji, which had encamped near the place. In 1746, the Babi was again engaged by the Maratha army under Fakar-ud-Daula, when also he was completely vanquished and badly wounded. For a second time, he had to seek the shelter of Rangoji's troops and he owed his life to their protection.

In the year 1747, Babi Mahmud Bahadur made friends with Fakar-ud-Daula; and their combined forces assisted by the troops of Idar, under the command of Rayasinhji, a brother of Anandsinhji, the Maharaja of Idar, laid siege to the city of Ahmedabad. The metropolis of Gujarat was then governed by Babi Kamal-ud-Din Khan *alias* Jawan Mard Khan II. Against his strength all the efforts of the allied troops were of no avail and they had finally to raise the siege and sound an instant retreat. In that year also Damaji Gackwad, with his brother Khande Rao, obtained the assistance of Babi Kamal-ud-Din *alias* Jawan Mard Khan, and their armies made a joint attack upon Borsad, which was then governed by a Nawab. The city was defended by Babi Mahmud Bahadur and his ally, Rayasinhji of Idar. This invasion occasioned great animosity between them on the one hand, and the Gackwad and Babi Kamal-ud-Din on the other. Their hostilities rose to such a pitch that Mahmud Bahadur did not deem it safe to tarry any longer in Gujarat and leaving one of his sons, Sardar Mahmud Khan, in his *jagir* of Balasinor, he at once withdrew to Junagarh in 1748.

In 1754, Babi Mahmud Bahadur Khan severed all his connections with Gujarat, and concentrating his attention upon the administration of Junagarh, assumed the title of Nawab and ascended the *gadi* of Sorath. The Nawab expired in the year 1758 at Junagarh. His eldest son, Mahobat Khan, was by his side at the time, while the younger, Sardar Mahmud, was stationed at Balasinor. The heir-apparent was installed on the *gadi* of Junagarh by all the Mahomedan *Umraos* and the leading citizens of the place. Sardar Mahmud Khan, at the same time, set up his independent sovereignty at Balasinor.

Babi Sardar Mahmud Khan assumed the title of Nawab and his descendants to the present day rule over Balasinor. He had been inimical to the Marathas from the first, and now they invaded his

dominions in large numbers. Sadashiv Ramechandra, the leader of their bands, led an expedition against the Nawab of Balasinor, whom they compelled to acknowledge his defeat and agree to pay an annual tribute. In 1760, again, another Maratha army, under Bhagvant Rao, advanced against Balasinor, which they soon reduced. The Marathas occupied the city and retained its possession till the humbled Nawab agreed to give tribute to them. Upon these humiliating terms the town was again restored to Sardar Mahmud Khan. After his death, his son, Jamiat Khan, ascended the *gadi*, and he, in his turn, was succeeded by Nawab Salabat Khan.

It was during Salabat Khan's regime that Balasinor acknowledged the supremacy of the British Power. The Nawab entered into an alliance with the Paramount Power, and full protection was guaranteed to him and his descendants. Balasinor had been paying tribute both to the Peshwa and the Gaekwad. On behalf of the Peshwa, the Suba of Ahmedabad had levied an annual tribute of 3,000 rupees; but the amount was enhanced to 10,000 rupees in 1768. When the rule of the Peshwas was finally extinguished in 1818, all their rights and authority were transferred to the British Government. In the year 1813, when the Mahi Kantha Settlement was effected between the tributary chiefs of the district and the Gaekwad, through the intercession of the Suzerain Power, the amount payable as tribute by Balasinor to Maharaja Gaekwad was finally fixed at 4,001 rupees *i. e.* 3,601 rupees in British coin.

Nawab Salabat Khan died in the month of May 1820. He left behind him no heir to the *gadi*; whereupon Nawab Bahadur Khan of Junagarh, a distant relation of the family, urged his own claims to the throne of Balasinor. The British Government, however, rejected his suit, and Abad Khan, a cousin of the late Nawab, was chosen by them as the next successor to the *gadi*. The prohibition against the cultivation of poppy, in accordance with the British Opium Act, was first enforced in that district, during the reign of this Nawab. Abad Khan turned out a weak and inapt ruler, and during his effete rule the general mal-administration went to such a pitch that the resulting anarchy had to be remedied by the deposition of the Nawab. Abad Khan abdicated the throne and his brother, Idal Khan, was next installed on the *gadi*.

Nawab Idal Khan held the reins of government for nine years. Upon his death in 1831, he was succeeded by his son, Jorawar Khan. Under his rule a boundary dispute arose between the States of Lunawada and

Balasinor, about the ownership of *certain villages in the Virpur district*. With a view to facilitate an amicable settlement, it was considered more desirable to place both the States under one and the same British Agent; and for that purpose Balasinor, which had, till then, been under the jurisdiction of the Kaira Collectorate, was, in 1852, transferred to the Rewa Kantha Political Agency. The district of Virpur was attached by the Political Agent, pending the settlement of the question in dispute. At last, in 1867, when Lunawada was taken under the management of the British Agent, owing to the minority of the present ruler, the dispute was once for all amicably settled in a manner, which caused satisfaction to both the parties. It was agreed that the district of Virpur should be ceded in its entirety to the Nawabs of Balasinor, while Lunawada was to receive, every year, a sum of 2,470 rupees from the Nawab, in compensation for the loss thereby occasioned to it. Balasinor has taken possession of the district in accordance with this arrangement, which continues in force to the present day.

Nawab Jorawar Khan expired on the 30th November 1882, after a long reign of 51 years. He left behind him two sons, Manowar Khan and Prince Budhu Miya. The heir-apparent, Manowar Khan, was installed on the *gadi* by Mr. Woodward, the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha; and he is the present ruling Nawab of Balasinor. The deceased Nawab, Jorawar Khan, had a very admirable character; he had a frank, sincere and liberal mind.

Nawab Manowar Khan had been allied in matrimony with a daughter of the Nawab of Radhanpur; but the Begam did not long survive her marriage. Subsequently the Nawab was joined in wedlock with the daughter of the Sardar of Kerwada and Khadal. A daughter of Nawab Manowar Khan had been given in marriage to the late Nawab Bahadur Khan of Junagarh, while his sister was wedded to the heir-apparent of the Nawab of Manavadar.

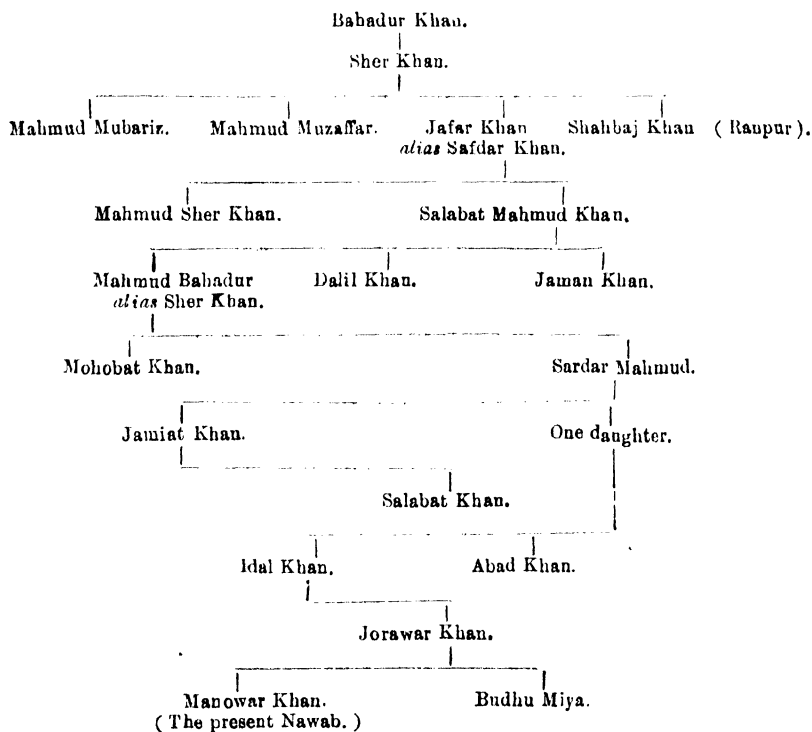
The Nawab received a *sanad* in 1890, guaranteeing the succession in his family according to Mahomedan law in case of failure of natural heirs.

Next year an arrangement as regards Abkari rights in two of his villages in the Kaira Collectorate, was come to. It is to hold good for ten years. In compensation for the loss caused by the closing of all stills and liquor shops in the villages, the State is to receive an annual payment of 660 rupees.

Nawab Manowar Khan of Balasinor is a second class Chief in Rewa-Kantha Agency and enjoys full civil and criminal powers over his subjects in the realm. He has also authority to award capital sentence in the case of very heinous offences. The administration of the State is, at present, superintended by the *Karbhari*, Mr. Premchand Kishandas.

The Nawab of Balasinor is entitled to a salute of 9 guns.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Balasinor, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency



BARIA.

Area.—873 sq. miles. Population.—110,688.

Revenue.—2,49,480 rupees.

Baria is bounded on the north by the small State of Sanjeli; on the east, by the Jhalod and Dohad sub-divisions of the Panch Mahals; on the south it touches the Kathiwara State under the Bhopawar Agency, as well as the territories of Chhota Udepur and Narukot; while on its west are situated the districts of Godhra, Kalol and Halol in the Panch Mahals.

The rulers of Baria are Rajputs of the Khichi Chauhan race, and are said to be related to the chiefs of Chhota Udepur, by common ancestry. The founder of their clan, Anhal, is mythically described as having been produced by the wisest sage of yore, Vasishtha, from a sacrificial altar, on Mount Abu. The family history of these princes, from the times of Anhal down to the period of Jayasinh Deo, better known as Patai Rawal, who flourished at Champaner, has been recorded at length in the annals of Chhota Udepur. In 1484 Sultan Mahmud, the Mahomedan Shah of Gujarat, who, by his conquests, won for him the proud title of Begara, invaded Champaner and measured his strength with Patai Rawal. In a hard fought contest that ensued, Patai Rawal was taken prisoner, and put to a very cruel death. His troops were scattered and his followers had to fly for their lives to distant places. Prithirajji and Dungarsinhji, the two sons of Kumar Rayasinhji, the son of Patai, fled from one place to another, till at last they took up their abode at the village of Hamph, situated on the banks of the Narbada. They made this their centre of operations, whence they extended their plunders to many surrounding villages. Here they gradually founded a new little *Raj* and established their supremacy over many adjacent tracts. In order to prevent the mischief that followed in the train of pillage and rapine, to which they often resorted, the Shah of Gujarat agreed to give them *chauth* from some of his districts; and their power was at this period augmented to such an extent that the whole territory between Rajpipla and Godhra owed allegiance to them.

Prithirajji and Dungarsinhji had by their combined valour acquired such vast dominions; consequently they now portioned out their possessions between them. Prithirajji set himself up at Mohan, while Baria was allotted to the share of Dungarsinhji.

On the death of Dungarsinhji, he was succeeded on the *gadi* of Baria by Udayasinhji, Rayasinhji, Vijayasinhji and Mansinhji, in regular succession. Nothing more is known about these chiefs than the fact that with Mansinhji the Rajput supremacy, for a time, came to an end in 1720. On his death a Beluch Sardar violently laid his hands on the *Raj* and held the sceptre for a time. The widow of Mansinhji, with her infant son, Prithirajji, sought shelter at the court of his maternal grand-father, the Rawal of Dungarpur. The distressed Rani, with her son, stayed there for twelve long years, till at last in 1732, they marched upon Baria, assisted by the troops of Dungarpur and succeeded in expelling the Beluch usurper from the capital. After their return they raised a strong fortress of the name of Devgad or "the castle of the gods." A short time after, a large Maratha army, under the leadership of Udaji Puar, Malhar Rao Holkar and Jankoji Sindhia, invaded the territories of Baria, where they met with very little resistance. The Maratha leaders were pleased to forego all tribute from Prithirajji, who, on the contrary, had his title, as the Raja of Baria, acknowledged by them. The Marathas also agreed to support him in the suppression of several outlaws and free-booters, who infested the province and greatly harassed the poor subjects by their plunders. The Raja entered into an alliance with the Marathas and received very favourable terms at their hands. The Marathas even agreed to forbear from ever obstructing the Chief in his attempts to collect *chauth* from the districts of Halol, Kalol and Dohad.

Prithirajji was, on his death, succeeded by his son, the heir-apparent, Rayadharji. He liberally assigned several villages in *giras* to his brothers, Samatsinhji, Harisinhji and Ramsinhji, as well as his two sisters; which still continue in the possession of their descendants to the present day. The Talukdars of Heral, in the district of Kalol, in the Panch Mahals, are descended from this same Harisinhji.

On the death of Rayadharji, his son, Gangdasji, ascended the *gadi*; and in his turn, he was succeeded by his son, Gambhirsinhji. When the last named Chief died, he left two sons behind him, Dhiratsinhji and Sahebsinhji; of whom Dhiratsinhji, after his accession to the *gadi*, soon died without any issue; this event called Sahebsinhji to the throne.

During his rule, Madhji Sindhia, who had set forth to track out the hiding place of his foe, Raghunath Rao, passed through the territories of Baria, where he was very hospitably received. Sindhia rewarded this service by the grant of a rich dress of honour to the Raja.

On the death of Sahebsinhji, his son, Jaswantsinhji, ascended the *gadi*. It was during his reign, that the State first entered into a treaty of alliance with the British Government, in 1803.

The Second Maratha War had just ended in the total discomfiture of Sindhia. He was deprived of Broach and his other possessions in Gujarat by the victorious arms of the English; and Sindhia had to crave for peace and accept the terms proposed by the British Government at Sirji Anjengaon. Jaswantsinhji of Baria had by his peaceable demeanour, won the favourable opinion of the English, and by the 10th article of this Treaty he was expressly regarded as deserving of the protection of the Paramount Power.

Jaswantsinhji died shortly after, and was succeeded by his son, Gangdasji II. His rule was distracted by the frequent eruptions of bands of Maratha free-booters, who laid waste the whole territory. The Raja was naturally imbecile and effete, and the affairs of the State were superintended by his astute mother. The incursions of the Marathas became more and more frequent; in the year 1805, alone, Shambhaji Angria, a general in the service of Sindhia, invaded Baria and extorted a sum of 14,000 rupees from the Chief; Bhujang Rao, from the same army, coerced the Raja into the payment of 8,000 rupees. Mahipat Rao, a leader of Holkar's troops, outrageously extorted a sum of rupees 33,000, while in 1808, again, Bapusaheb Sindhia succeeded in raising a sum of 33,000 for himself by oppression and extortion. Bapusaheb did not rest satisfied with this; he devastated and plundered the whole territory of Baria. Between the years 1810 and 1815, this unfortunate State was frequently compelled to pay tribute to Ramdin, to Roshenbeg, the leader of Holkar's forces, to Babu Raghunath of Dhar, to Govind Rao Bole and to many other Maratha adventurers.

At this period another serious calamity befell the ill-starred State. The mother of the imbecile Gangdasji was a very intellectual and accomplished lady. She had mastered the art of government in all its branches; and she was at the helm of affairs owing to the incapacity of her son. All her prudence was brought to bear upon the administration of the State. In 1817, this gifted lady was brutally murdered in her palace by a Brahmin assassin of the name of Naran Dave. The vile Brahmin had formerly served the State as *thandar* of the Rajgad district. He had been dismissed by the regent-mother for his corrupt practices and other misconduct. With a view to wreak vengeance upon her, he entered service in the army

of Krishnaji, a Suba retained by Sindhia, over the districts of Godhra, Panch Mahals and Pawagarh. Krishnaji, who had under his command one hundred infantry, was first induced by the Brahmin to invade the territories of Baria. A few days after, the Suba was bribed with a sum of 5,000 rupees and was prevailed upon to entrust 100 horse and 300 foot-guards to the command of the Brahmin adventurer. With these troops he approached the capital and concealing all his men, he marched at the head of 25 chosen followers and effected his entry into the town by night. He stole into the palace and slew the royal mother in cold blood, while she was fast asleep. He plundered the treasures of the palace and soon abandoned the town.

This sad occurrence drove the helpless Gangdasji to seek the shelter of his relative, Raja Rayasinhji of Chhota Udepur. A few days later, the wicked Naran Dave was mortally wounded in a combat with Vithoji, a brother of the Suba of Godhra, and the wretched Brahmin died of its effects soon after. Taking advantage of this episode, Gangdasji, with a few followers, returned to his ancestral *gadi* from Chhota Udepur. Baria, though situated very close to the district of the Panch Mahals, which was held in sway by Sindhia, had never to pay any tribute to that Maratha sovereign.

Its territories were frequently invested by the troops of Sindhia, yet its rights to collect the *chauth* and other dues from the districts of Dohad, Halol and Kalol, owing allegiance to Maharaja Sindhia, were never held in abeyance. It was only in 1819 that these rights and dues were commuted into a fixed money-payment of the sum of 4,750 rupees every year.

Gangdasji expired in 1819. Before the birth of his son, Prithirajji, his Rani had already adopted two spurious sons, Bhimsinhji and Motisinhji. Bhimsinhji was installed on the *gadi* by several scheming *Karbharis*; he was, however, of low birth, being only begotten of a Bhil maid. Consequently he was soon deposed by another *Karbhari* of the name of Jijibhai, who assumed the helm of affairs in the name of the young and legitimate heir, Prince Prithirajji. His rule, however, was marked by such turmoil and disorder that the British Political Officer, Captain Mac Donald, had to intervene, with a view to restore equilibrium in the affairs of the State. Jijibhai was dismissed and the administration was entrusted to the hands of a Rajput Sardar, who was related to the Chief, and was known by the name of Natkubhai. During the minority of Prithirajji, the administration of the State was conducted under the superintendence of the British.

On the 24th April 1824, the Raja entered into a formal treaty of alliance with the Paramount Power. In lieu of the protection vouchsafed by the British Government, the Raja promised to pay a sum of 12,000 rupees in *Salim Shahi* coin as tribute. An increase was gradually to be made in this amount, in proportion to the advance in the prosperity of the State. In 1849, however, the amount was finally fixed at 12,000 rupees *Salim Shahi* i. e. 9336-4-0 rupees in British coin. Another clause of the agreement of 1824 provided for the annual payment of 6,000 rupees by the State for the maintenance of a subsidiary detachment, to be stationed at the capital; but this provision was never put into force; for, in 1826, it was formally cancelled in pursuance of the same policy by which similar provisions effected with the neighbouring chiefs of Banswara and Dungarpur were rendered ineffectual.

In 1838, the State was distracted by a great rising of the Bhils under the command of their leader, Keval, a resident of the district of Sagtala in the State, who was assisted by his kinsmen and all the aboriginal Nayakdas from the Chhota Udepur and the Panch Mahals territories. The disturbance was only quelled by the interference of the British Government, who assumed all the jurisdiction over Sagtala into their own hands and stationed their own *thandar* at the place.

Prithirajji II expired in 1864; on his death his young son, Mansinhji, who was only eight years old at the time, was installed on the *gadi*. He is the present ruling Chief. At the time of his accession he was only a minor and the entire administration, consequently, devolved upon his mother, Rani Takhta Kunvarba. That lady, however, could not competently manage the affairs of the State, when, at last, in 1865, the British Government placed their own officer at the head of the State, during the minority of the Chief. In 1868, while the management of the State was in the hands of the English, Rupsinh, a Bhil chieftain of the wilds of Dandiapura, under Narukot, assisted by his friend, Joria, headed another rising of the Bhils and excessively harassed the subjects of the State. They were so bold as to plunder the head-quarters of the State-officials at Rajgad and to burn the whole village. The rising was, however, soon suppressed by the force of the British arms.

Raja Mansinhji, the present ruler, while yet a child, was sent to the Ahmedabad Talukdari School by the British Government, and he finished the course of his education at the Rajkumar College at Rajkot. There

he attained good proficiency in the English and the Vernacular languages. On his attaining the age of majority he was deemed well qualified to manage the government of his State, and, in the month of November 1876, the reins of government were entrusted to him.

The district of Sagtala had been retained by the British in their own hands since the rising of the Nayakdas, in 1838, in the time of Raja Prithirajji. Mansinhji was, however, regarded from the first as a capital and wise ruler and on the strength of the fair promise he thus held out for the future, the British Government renounced their jurisdiction over the district, which was restored to the Raja in 1881.

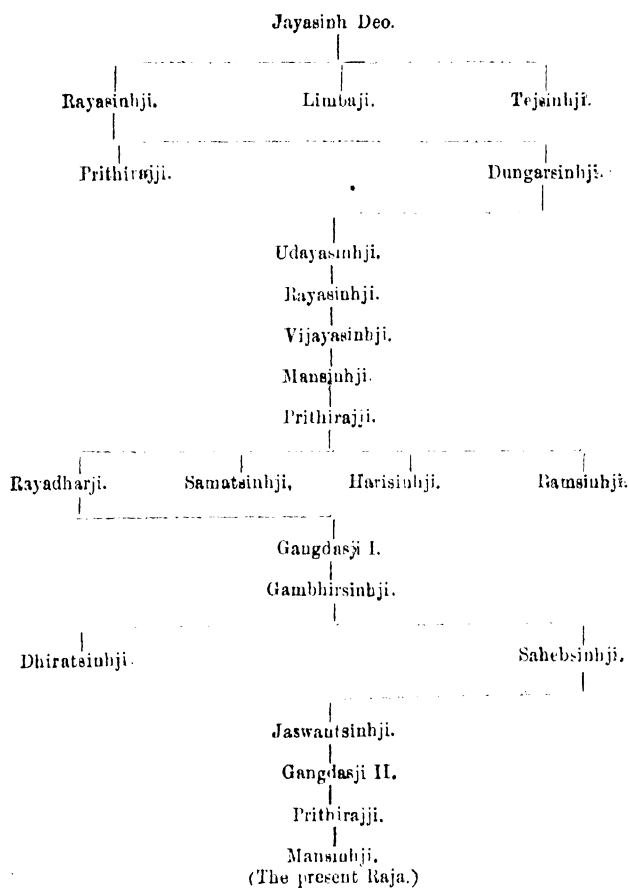
The tribute payable by the State has been remitted by the Government in consideration of the State having undertaken to abolish all transit duties, to establish a public works fund and otherwise maintain roads in good repairs, under an agreement concluded in 1892.

The Raja of Baria has been granted the right of adoption and is entitled to a salute of 9 guns.



THE HIND RAJĀSTHĀN.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Baria, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.



BARWANI (Wadhvani).

Area.—1,362 sq. miles. Population.—80,266.

Revenue.—200,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the district of Dhar ; on the east, by the dominions of Holkar ; on the south and south-west, by the district of Khandesh ; and on the north-west, by the State of Ali-Rajpur.

The rulers of Barwani are Sisodiya Rajputs of the Solar race, and are descended from a collateral branch of the house of Mewad. Bappa Rawal, who conquered Mewad, from the hands of the Parmar rulers of the Mori sect, had two sons, named Khuman* and Dhank. After the death of Bappa, Khuman ascended the Mewad *gadi* ; while his younger brother, Dhank, left the paternal home to escape the ignominy of a life-long imprisonment. He reached the fertile plains of the Narbada and staying there for about a couple of months, ascended a peak of the Vindhya mountains. He took refuge in a temple dedicated to a goddess, Minaya Devi, and passed his days in worshipping and propitiating the deity. The neighbouring districts were then inhabited by the Gujjars, who approaching Dhank, accosted him with several questions as to his name, nationality and place of birth. To these the prince replied by saying that his name was Dhank, his *Gotra* (family name) was Khilot and that he belonged to the brave Kshatriya class. The Gujjars then told him that hard by there prowled a man-eating tiger, which was creating a havoc in all the country round, but if he had the courage to kill the furious animal they would instal him as their leader. Dhank took up his bow and arrow and instantly hastening to the spot, pointed out to him by the confounded populace, despatched the tiger and accepted sovereignty over the grateful Gujjars. One of their number, Bali, however, dissented, but he was killed and Dhank was unanimously acknowledged as their saviour and protector. The son of Bappa next transferred his place of residence from the temple of Minaya Devi to Avasgarh, a fortress on the Mount Vindhya. Thus Dhank became the first sovereign of Avasgarh. He married the daughter of Kalh

* From the annals of Mewad it appears that Khuman was third in descent from Bappa Rawal.

Here it appears that Khuman was the son of Bappa Rawal. Of these two conflicting accounts it is hard to ascertain which is more correct. As the Persian work, on which this account of Barwani is founded, mentions Khuman as the son of Bappa, he has been so described here.

After his death, the *gadi* was successively occupied by Dhir Raj, Vaje Raj, Apalsi, Hari Raj Sinh, Hipal Sinh, Haripal Sinh, Ude Sinh, Khuman Sinh, Megh Raj, Gokwan Sinh, Bhim Sinh, Ran Sinh, Indrajit Sinh, Chandra Sinh, Mamar Sinh, Kayandar Sinh, Kam Raj Sinh, Pratap Sinh, Mokai Sinh, Sobhag Sinh and Samar Sinh. The last of these, Samar Sinh, defeated the chief of Kusumpura, and there stationed one of his own battalions. He was succeeded by his son, Shyam Sinh, who defeated and killed the ruling prince of Apalkhed and founded the village of Kilipur. He was succeeded by his son, Mokai Sinh, who extended his regions by killing many of the aboriginal Bhils, holding lands on the Vindhya mountain. After Mokai Sinh, the Avasgarh *gadi* was occupied by Vajepal Sinh, Rannath Sinh, Ghadi Sinh, Balwant Sinh and Mal Sinh. The last Mal Sinh had three sons, Viram Sinh, Bhim Sinh and Arjun Sinh. The eldest, Viram Sinh, inherited the paternal throne. He entrusted the reins of government to his younger brother, Bhim Sinh, and himself proceeding to Devgarh, defeated its ruler and exacted tribute from him. He was after his death succeeded by his son, Kanak Sinh. He conquered the territories of Ratanmal, Gormaki and Jaduh, and relinquishing the hereditary throne of Avasgarh to his uncle, Bhim Sinh, began to rule over the newly conquered regions. The descendants of Viram Sinh thenceforth became the rulers of Ratanmal, while those of Bhim Sinh and Arjun Sinh continued the line of succession at Avasgarh.

While Bhim Sinh was reigning at Avasgarh, his younger brother, Arjun Sinh, was staying with him in the same palace. The name of Bhim Sinh's wife was Bhavmati. Once upon a time, Arjun Sinh became very hungry and asked Bhavmati to give him some thing to eat. He grew so impatient that Bhavmati tauntingly said that he need not be in such hot haste, for he had not then returned from the conquest of Devgarh ! Arjun Sinh took umbrage at the jeering tone of his brother's wife, and vowed not to take food there, unless he had conquered Devgarh. He instantly set out with his following towards Devgarh and pitched his tent about 3 Kos from the enemy's capital. Bhim Sinh, when he came to know of what had happened, forthwith marched towards Devgarh, and approaching his brother, began to expostulate with him, saying that the words of a woman ought not to have incited him to take such a rash step. Bhavmati, he said, was but his brother's wife, and he ought not to have taken such an offence at any thing uttered by her in mere jest. He then explained to him the strength of his enemy, and advised him not to pick up a quarrel

with a powerful foe, lest he and his followers would be scattered like chaff before wind, his whole sect destroyed and the ancestral estate wrested from their hands and permanently annexed to Devgarh. Where would be the wisdom, urged Bhim Sinh, in thrusting one's hand in the mouth of a venomous cobra, or wrestling with a furious lion? Arjun Sinh was deaf to all the arguments and entreaties of his brother, to whom he cynically replied 'I have already placed my one foot in the grave. Once that I have made my resolve to conquer Devgarh, I cannot change it. I will either perish in the attempt or accomplish my vow.' Bhim Sinh in despair abdicated his throne in favour of Arjun Sinh and entrusting to him the command of all his troops, took refuge in a neighbouring wilderness. Arjun Sinh returned to Avasgarh to take charge of the administration, and after a few days directed his course to Devgarh, unattended by any of his retinue. He there pitched his tent in the vicinity of a well, on the outskirts of the city. Ram Sinh was then reigning at Devgarh. One of his men went to the well, where Arjun Sinh had taken his stand, and while carrying water for his master, he was stopped and roughly handled by the stranger. The menial not knowing who he was, abused him, whereupon the Kshatriya belaboured him and broke his water-pot. At once running to his lord, the water-bearer, with tears in his eyes, recounted to Ram Sinh all that had happened by the side of the well. Ram Sinh ordered his attendants to go and arrest the culprit, but driven to desperation, Arjun Sinh killed several of the king's attendants, when the rest took to their heels. Ram Sinh, struck with astonishment at the stranger's bravery, himself repaired to his tent and escorting him to his palace, accorded him a princely reception. Ram Sinh then wore a golden anklet on his foot, and Arjun Sinh asked him the significance of wearing that ornament. The proud lord of Devgarh replied that having subdued many of his antagonists he put on the anklet as a trophy of his innumerable victories. Arjun Sinh petulantly told him that such a trophy should rather adorn his head, neck or hand than his foot, and with defiance asked him to take the anklet off or fight a duel with him. Ram Sinh remonstrated with his guest, and said that he was so much pleased with him that not only would he give him his anklet but would also bestow on him the hand of his fair daughter. The brave Sisodiya's object in coming to Devgarh was to vanquish its chief, but when he saw that his equanimity remained undisturbed, he angrily drew out his dagger and struck it on the adjacent pillar with such violence that the massive block

was pierced through. Then turning to Ram Sinh he said, 'pull out this dagger, else give me the anklet and acknowledge your defeat.' The Lord of Devgarh, true to his Kshatriya instinct, patiently heard every thing that fell from the lips of his guest, and in accordance with the traditional rules of hospitality returned a submissive reply, saying that he had better dislodge the dagger himself and in case he was successful he would readily acknowledge his martial superiority. Arjun Sinh took hold of the handle and pulled out the dagger, and Ram Sinh, acknowledging his victory, married his daughter, Masmāt Paramala, to him, and adorned his foot with the golden anklet. Hastening to Bhim Sinh, the valiant Arjun laid the proud trophy at his feet, and recounted to him everything that had occurred at Devgarh. Bhim Sinh was delighted beyond measure at his brother's valour and took him to Bhavmati, who shewed repentance for her past folly but seemed satisfied at the happy termination of his venture. After the death of Arjun Sinh, Vagaji and Parsan Sinh successively occupied the *gadi* at Avasgarh. The last of them is said to have met Guru Gorakhnath, a prophetic sage, in one of the caves on the Mount Vindhya. The sage on learning that the mortal standing before him was no less a personage than the lord of Avasgarh, asked him what good he could do to him. Parsan Sinh disinterestedly replied that he had ventured there simply to pay his obeisance to him. Gorakhnath, pleased with his sense of self-abnegation, asked him to unhesitatingly partake of the food that was placed before him. The Rana's scruples came in his way and he asked forgiveness of the holy sage. Gorakhnath was, however, inexorable and cursed the Rana, saying he would shortly lose his high Hindu caste and be compelled to embrace the faith of the Islam. Trembling with fear, he ran towards the door of the cave, but saw a furious cobra barring his way. Assured of the wrath of the sage, he shut his eyes and flew out of the cave. Meanwhile the Imperial troops attacked his domains and defeated his son, Bhim Sinh. Parsan Sinh hastened to Avasgarh, but the commander of the Imperial troops arrested him and told him that his life would only be spared if he accepted the faith of Islam. This ultimatum put him in mind of Gorakh's curse, and resigning himself to his fate, he embraced the Mahomedan faith. The Emperor, who was delighted at his conversion, granted him the district of Yatir with 84 villages, together with a superb dress of honor and a richly caparisoned elephant. The *gadi* of Avasgarh, too, was restored to him, but he abdicated it in favour of his son, Bhim Sinh.

Bhim Sinh was succeeded by Vachhraj Sinh, who in turn was succeeded by Parsan Sinh II. He defeated and put to flight Balwant Rai, the chief of Raipur, with the help of Chand Khan, a general in the Imperial troops. Placing his men at Raipur, Parsan Sinh advanced to Balanpur and conquering it, returned to Avasgarh, where he rewarded the services of Chand Khan by giving him immense wealth. He then waged war with the Prince of Saladu, who refused to pay him tribute. He invaded his dominions and conquered them. He subsequently marched against Bakuwa and in an encounter with its chief, slew him and conquered his estate. Flushed with a round of victories, he returned to Avasgarh. He then directed his arms against the chief of Vawani, with whom the struggle lasted for a year, terminating in the success of Parsan Sinh and annexation of Vawani. He was an excellent prince, who maintained his dignity by feats of valour and was always charitably disposed towards the poor and distressed among his subjects. Though an avowed Hindu, he had some secret regard for Islamism, and, it is said, he used to observe fasts during the *Ramjan* month. He had two sons, Rayabhan and Limji, of whom the elder, Rayabhan, succeeded him to the *gadi*. His mother was of a vindictive disposition and treated her step-son, Limji, with great cruelty. She made several attempts to kill Limji, but failing in all, she once contrived to mix poison with the food prepared for him, but the latter, who remained always on his guard, refused to swallow even a morsel of the food served by her. Rayabhan accidentally happened to come up to the spot, where the poisoned dish lay, and feeling the pangs of hunger, he appeased them by taking a few morsels out of that fatal dish. Symptoms of poisoning soon set in and within a short time he fell victim to a diabolical plot, laid out by his cruel mother against the life of his own father's son. Limji, when he learnt this, fled in confusion to a neighbouring forest. The Queen-mother, driven to madness by excessive grief, began violently to beat her breast and send forth cries of lamentation, but her grief, intense as it was, was for a time subdued by feelings of rage and retribution, and she ordered her men to find out Limji and cut off his head. The servants commenced their search and at last finding out Limji, they communicated to him the brutal order of the Queen. Limji, overcome with grief, fell at the feet of his retainers and entreated them to spare his life. He piteously appealed to their sense of justice and devotion and solemnly declared that he was as innocent as a new born babe, that Rayabhan was only entrapped into the snare spread by the dowager-queen for himself and that his life was in their hands, which they would not wantonly take away

at the bidding of a cruel and ill-natured woman. He further said, that they had all eaten the salt of his father, and though temporarily under the sway of a haughty woman, they were but responsible to that one Mighty Being, who would never forgive their ingratitude. He then explained to them that the poisonous dish was prepared for him, but Rayabhan unfortunately partook of that food and was killed on the spot. If they killed him also, the line of his father would be extinct, and instead of revering his memory, they would do the departed spirit a grievous wrong. Faithful and devoted as they were, they would, for his sake alone, spare the life of the only son of their liege lord and sovereign, who, they knew, was innocent and guileless. He promised them that if they allowed him to go, he would seek his fortune some where else and never return to his native land. Melted with pity and remorse, the servants of the Rani spared his life and allowed him to go his own way. Killing an antelope on the way, they carried its eyes to the queen-mother, saying that they had killed Limji, but suspecting the truth of their story, she carried on in person the search of the fugitive. She did not rest contented until all her attempts proved futile.

Spared from the jaws of death, Limji took refuge in a cave in the midst of a dense forest. The Bhils, inhabiting those regions, observed and admired the princely virtues of Limji and flocking to his abode, selected him as their guide and sovereign. After the death of Raibhan, there remained no one to inherit the *gadi* of Avasgarh, and the nobility resolved to find out Limji and instal him on the throne. After a weary search Limji was found in his cave retreat, known by the name of Katori, and escorted to Avasgarh by a nobleman, named Gaj Sinh. When he was firmly seated on the throne, he went to Mandu and conquered Ornipar. He despatched a portion of his troops to Pathra under the command of his cousin, Prithi Sinh, but on the way he encountered a Mahomedan general, with whom he crossed his weapons and fell in the fight. Kalyan Sinh, the eldest son of the deceased Prithi Sinh, then went to the Rana, who granted him a rich estate in recognition of his father's services.

Rana Limji was excessively fond of hearing soul-stirring narratives from the great Indian Epic, the Maha Bharata, and being by nature a devout and religious Hindu, spent the greater portion of the day in worshipping the idol. He had engaged the services of a learned Brahman, named Govind Pandit, who, in 1617 (1673 St.), compiled a historical account of the reigning house of Avasgarh, and named it ' Kalpa Grantha'.

During his old age, Linji sent his youngest son to the presence of the Emperor, who, as a mark of esteem, gave him a rich dress of honor. Linji had five sons; (1) Chandra Sinh, (2) Lakshman Sinh, (3) Hamir Sinh, (4) Bhau Sinh and (5) Madan Sinh. He had also a daughter, named Masmāt Devi who was married to Raya Sinh, the prince of Ali Mohan *alias* Ali-Rajpur. This princess after her marriage was never allowed by her husband to go to her paternal home, and her father, Linji, once bade his sons march upon Ali-Rajpur, and bring him his daughter. Bhau Sinh, the fourth son of the Rana, prepared himself at the head of a large army to proceed to Ali Mohan and escort Masmāt Devi to Avasgarh. He first requested his brother-in-law, Raya Sinh, to peacefully send Masmāt Devi to her father's home; Raya Sinh proudly refused to accede to his wishes, and in a bantering spirit sent one of his slave-girls to Bhau Sinh's camp, under the guise of Masmāt Devi. Incensed with rage, Bhau Sinh would have slain his brother-in-law, but subduing his anger, he secretly sent a word to Masmāt Devi that her father and brothers were burning with a desire to see her, that he had travelled all the way to Ali Mohan only to obtain a glimpse of her and that he felt ashamed to go back without fulfilling his mission. Masmāt Devi, too, was yearning to see her brother and by a secret passage, she went to her brother's camp. Bhau Sinh was ready to receive her and in an instant was on his way to Avasgarh. Raya Sinh at the head of his troops pursued the fugitive, but Bhau Sinh contrived to send Masmāt Devi to his father's court, while barring the way, he stood prepared to engage himself with the pursuers. In the scuffle that ensued, though Somechand and Ramchand, two of the bravest generals on the side of Bhau Sinh, fell wounded, Raya Sinh's men were put to the route. Bhau Sinh, after this victory, returned to Avasgarh. Chandra Sinh, the eldest son of Linji, had married three wives, (1) the daughter of the Solanki Chief of Purkhedi, (2) the daughter of the Chief of Jhabua and (3) the daughter of Man Sinh, the Chief of Kodi. The heir-apparent, Sur Sinh, was born of the Jhabua princess, while the Solanki Rani was the mother of four sons, Vaje Sinh, Jodh Sinh, Shyam Sinh and Raj Sinh and four daughters. The remaining wife had given birth to two daughters only.

Masmāt Devi, who had been staying with her father, for the last several years, expressed her desire to go to her husband's house, and begged of him to send her to Ali Mohan. Linji was a strong-headed prince and turned a deaf ear to her repeated entreaties. Masmāt Devi had grown weary of her long stay at Avasgarh, and when she saw that her father respected not her

lofty sentiments of love and devotion towards her husband, her filial affection gave way and she once mixed poison with Limji's food to get rid of him. The attempt proving futile, she bribed one of her father's confidential attendants, and through him administered poison to the Rana. This had the desired effect. Limji was confined to bed, completely incapacitated and prevented from superintending his State-affairs. When his eldest son, Chandra Sinh, who was then at Avalipur, came to know of his father's illness, he at once hastened to Avasgarh, at the head of his troops, and deposing Limji, assumed the reins of government in his hands. The unfilial conduct of his son and daughter heaped ruin upon the State, and led to internecine dissensions among the sons of Limji, and the four younger sons made a common cause against their elder brother. Chandra Sinh, whom they denounced as the foe of their family, Chandra Sinh fled to Govalgarh and proceeded to Sultanpur. Khuman Sinh, the second son of Prithi Sinh, followed Chandra Sinh to Govalgarh, and capturing some of his friends and partisans, sent them on to Avasgarh. Chandra Sinh, to avenge the insult thus offered him, invaded Avasgarh and set fire to the house of his brother, Bhau Sinh, in which his wife, Mismat Asauti, was burnt alive. The house of Khuman Sinh was then consigned to flames and the inmate fled to Delhi and took refuge with the Emperor. Meanwhile the other brothers of Chandra Sinh offered him a strong resistance, which drove him to Devgarh.

Rana Limji, who was long suffering from the effects of poison, at last succumbed to the disease. When the intelligence of the Rana's death reached Chandra Sinh's ears, he grew apprehensive of his own safety and began to realise his own position of helplessness against the combined strength of his brothers. He knew that if he then ventured to go to Avasgarh, he would fall an easy prey into the hands of his enraged brothers. Fortunately for him, Aurangzeb, the great Mughal Emperor, happened at the time to pass through Burhanpur. Chandra Sinh repaired to the Royal Camp and got himself enlisted as one of the attendants of the grand monarch. He remained in that position for six months and gave entire satisfaction to the Mughal Sovereign, in the discharge of his duties. Aurangzeb rewarded his services with the grant of Avasgarh, and sent his own troops to the succour of Chandra Sinh, for the recovery of his lost patrimony. In the contest with his brothers they were all defeated and taken prisoners and were handed over to the care of the Mughal general. After being securely seated on the throne, he married the daughter of

Abhānrai, the Chief of Bhorkheda, and she gave birth to a son, named Mohan Sinh, the sixth male issue of Chandra Sinh.

The heir-apparent, Sur Sinh, was a brave and valiant prince. Proceeding to Khargoon, he waited upon the Mughal Viceroy, at whose bidding he killed a furious tiger with his dagger and receiving a superb dress of honor, returned to Avasgarh.

Usman Khan, the commander of the Mughal troops, invaded Avasgarh, but Sur Sinh carried on the struggle with unabated fury till mid-day, when seeing that the odds were fearfully against him, he left the field and fled to some other place of security. Usman Khan stormed the citadel of Avasgarh, and reducing it to ashes, marched towards the regions of the river, Kali Sindh. Sur Sinh afterwards led his army against Gopal Sinh and Karnal Sinh, the chiefs of Khedamurda, who refused to pay tribute to the Rana, and beleaguered their capital. A fierce battle was fought between the contending armies, in which the defending garrison shewed conspicuous bravery. Sur Sinh then led the forlorn hope and escalading the fortress, killed Karnal Sinh and took Gopal Sinh prisoner. He was detained in confinement for three months, at the end of which he was released on his agreeing to pay the demanded tribute. Chandra Sinh, when he saw that the fort of Avasgarh was not strong enough to protect him and his heirs against the inroads of foreign invaders, left it to the care of one of his chieftains, Chhatra Sal, and himself proceeded to the banks of the Narbada and founded the town of Barwani (Wadhvani), which still continues to be the capital of the State.

A Brahman, named Kashi, a subject of the Rana, and residing at Raipur, who often indulged in disobeying the orders of the government, drew upon himself the wrath of the heir-apparent, who flying to Raipur, defeated and slew the Brahman, at the head of his three hundred retainers. All his property was seized and carried as booty to the capital. Sur Sinh also ordered that the hands and noses of the prisoners of war be cut off and the men thus mutilated be sent to Bherav Das, one of his deadliest foes. Bherav Das, confounded with rage, fled to Borkheda and obtaining an interview with the Rana, told him that his son, Sur Sinh, was harassing him out of mere spite and that he had come there to fight with the Rana to avenge the wrong done him by his son. No sooner had he uttered those words than he strung his-bow and wounded him by hurling three arrows against him. Bhoj and Kalu, two of the Rana's attendants, who were standing by,

fell upon Bherav Das, who, however, contrived to escape and taking Chhatra Sal with him, went to Khargoon. Chandra Sinh invaded Avasgarh and marching on to Khargoon, caused Bherav Das to be brought to his presence. The culprit, when led to the Rana's tent, fell at his feet and with tears in his eyes, exclaimed, ' you once saved my life, when the Mughal Emperor ordered my head to be cut off. Ungrateful that I was, I took up arms against you and attempted to murder you. God be merciful ! I repent of that sin and ask your forgiveness.' The confiding Rana granted him a free pardon and the three months that he remained at Khargoon, Bherav Das was to be seen always by his side. Once Bherav Das confessed before the Rana that he and Chhatra Sal were really sorry for what had happened and that though they had committed an unpardonable blunder, the Rana indulgently excused them and added that five villages might be granted to Chhatra Sal, while the citadel of Avasgarh be resumed by the State. The Rana readily forgot and forgave the ingratitude of Chhatra Sal, on whom he bestowed a rich *jagir*, and resuming Avasgarh, returned to Barwani.

Chhatra Sal vowed not to put on a turban until he wreaked vengeance upon the Rana, and sent a word to Bherav Das, that though the Rana had then spared his life, he would not fail to avail himself of a favourable opportunity to get rid of him in future. He, therefore, advised him to be on his guard and adopt some means to free himself from the sword of Damocles, that would always be hanging on his head as long as the Rana was alive. Bherav Das then sent his son, Vaje Sinh, to Barwani with instructions to enter the service of the Chief and treacherously murder him when no other help was nigh. Vaje Sinh, on his arrival at Barwani, found no difficulty in obtaining the desired employment and he served the Rana with such zeal and assiduity that he soon won his confidence. One day he contrived to take the Rana, attended by two of his servants, Vaje and Girdhar, to a lonely spot, under the pretext of communicating to him an important State secret and dexterously murdered them all. Raj Sinh, one of the sons of the Rana, accidentally happened to arrive on the spot, and seeing the mangled corpse of his father, rolling in blood, he fell on the miscerant, Vaje Sinh. In the single combat, however, Raj Sinh was slain at the hands of the desperate Kshatriya. Bhagwanji Brahman, a servant of the Rana, wounded the culprit with his javelin, and he fell down completely drenched in blood. Before his death, however, he dealt the fatal blow to Raj Sinh and then through excessive hemorrhage sank down senseless on the spot. Bherav Das was all the while apprehensive of his son's safety and

though he had taken that rash step at the bidding of his friend, Chhatra Sal, he was every day in sad suspense, expecting to hear the doleful news of the death of his only son and heir, and the consequent extinction of his family. He, therefore, led his army to Barwani in support of his son, Vaje Sinh, but on reaching that place, he found that in a conflict with the Rana the Chief and his son had fallen at the hands of his valiant son, though he, too, was writhing and struggling on the ground, under the effects of a mortal wound. Bherav Das, fuming with rage, then engaged himself in a deadly conflict with Talak Chand and Jaswant Sinh, two of the Rana's comrades, in which Talak Chand was killed, while Jaswant Sinh escaped. Lifting up his wounded son, Bherav Das returned to Khargoon. Sur Sinh, the eldest son of the deceased Rana, on being apprised of the woeful event straight way proceeded to Sultanpur intent upon wreaking vengeance, and narrated the sad account to the Mahomedan governor, Bahilol Khan. Determined to shed blood for blood, he marched to a small village of Kukmara, and there waylaid Chhatra Sal, who, at the head of his army, was running to his friend's rescue. In the struggle, Khan Jahan and Balu, two of Chhatra Sal's valiant generals, together with many of their followers, were killed and Chhatra Sal escaped. Sur Sinh vigorously pursued him and overtaking him, killed him and his comrades, of whom, Hari Sinh alone contrived to effect his escape. After thus getting rid of one, who was the right hand of Bherav Das, Sur Sinh returned to Barwani. The wily Bherav Das followed him thither; and succeeding in throwing Sur Sinh off his guard by putting him on a false scent, he treacherously murdered him and ran to his place of concealment.

Rana Chandra Sinh and his eldest son, Sur Sinh, having thus been killed by a traitor's hand, the *gadi* was next occupied by the Rana's second son, Jodh Sinh. He introduced several reforms in the army and the State prospered under his rule. Bherav Das began to fear that Jodh Sinh would one day avenge his father's death, by destroying his whole family; and assuming command over his men, he led them into a war against the Chief of Barwani. Jodh Sinh accepted the challenge and a battle ensued, in which Bherav Das fought with the fury of a demon. At last the despicable traitor fell dead on the ground. The Rana lost one of his brothers, Shyam Sinh, while his other brother, Vaje Sinh *alias* Ram Sinh, received a nasty wound. Recovering from it, Ram Sinh attacked Prithimandal, where Amarmal, the second son of Chhatra Sal, was defeated and slain. Amarmal's widow, obtaining her husband's head from Ram Sinh, immolated

herself on the funeral pyre with the head in her lap. Menabai, the mother of Amarmal, hearing of her son's death, hastened to the battle field and exposed herself to the wounds of the enemy. Vaje, a Bhil, flung an arrow into her body, but extracting it, the brave woman entreated him to strike another a little more violently. A companion of the Bhil mercilessly hurled another arrow at the unlucky woman, which pierced one of her eyes. She pulled out that also, and said in despair that she only wondered there was not a single man in the Rana's host, who could despatch an old fragile woman, at a single stroke. Hanji Bhil then twanged his deadly bow and struck the Kshatriyani with such violence that she fell dead on the ground. Ram Sinh then sacked Prithimandal and loaded with booty, returned to Barwani. Jodh Sinh then went to pay homage to Bahilol Khan and Sultan Khan, the Mahomedan governors of the neighbouring districts, and shewed such an amount of submissiveness that, elated with pride, the Mussalman generals promised the Rana their cordial support in times of distress and difficulty. Rana, thus securing the good will of his more powerful neighbours, began to rule fearlessly at Barwani. He then crossed the river Nabada, and invading Gangli, fought with its ruler, Gangli Das, and sacking the capital, returned to his native land, taking with him rich spoils. Girdhari, one of the servants of the treacherous Bherav Das, who had struck the late Rana Chandra Sinh with his sword, approached the king's presence and asked his forgiveness. Jodh Sinh pardoned him and allowed him to remain at Barwani.

Beni Das, the son of Gangli Das, who had escaped from Gangli at the time of Jodh Sinh's invasion, by way of return, besieged the town of Mohanpura. Jodh Sinh marched out to meet him, and in the encounter Beni Das was defeated and put to flight. Parwat Sinh, the son of Rana Jodh Sinh, was then residing at Anjir, while the Rana's younger brother, Mohan Sinh, was at Borkheda. During the several engagements that signalised the Rana's reign, he lost some of his best supporters, and this fact permanently crippled his strength.

It was through the Rana's fear that Mohan Sinh's mother was residing with her children at Borkheda. When Mohan Sinh attained manhood, he led an army against Barwani and besieged its citadel. Jodh Sinh, however, appeased him by providing him with a rich maintenance, and the two brothers were reconciled. The Rana and his brother began to interchange friendly visits, and when once the Rana went to meet his brother, he was treacherously murdered by the latter's friends and partisans. Jodh Sinh's men fell upon the murderers, but were repulsed with a heavy loss. Mohan Sinh

forthwith proceeded to Barwani and assumed the helm of affairs in his hands. Parwat Sinh, the son of Jodh Sinh, who was then at Anjir, also hastened to Barwani to assert his claim to the throne and began to collect troops. Mohan Sinh marched against him, but Parwat Sinh loath to try the chances of war, fled and took shelter at Salawad. Entrusting the command of his army to two of his lieutenants, Uderam and Ramchandra, he despatched them to Barwani. In a nocturnal sally made by the invaders, the son of the chief of Gangli and several of his men, fighting on the side of the Rana, were slain, while Mohan Sinh, seeing that fortune was against him, escaped. Parwat Sinh's troops pillaged Barwani for five consecutive days and then returning to Salawad, the generals informed Parwat Sinh of the miserable condition of the people. They also told him that that was the best opportunity of subduing Barwani without the least opposition ; and Parwat Sinh, reaching the capital, mounted the throne, left vacant by Mohan Sinh's pusillanimous retreat (1676). After restoring order throughout the State, Parwat Sinh sacked and burnt the village of Sorana. Seeing that the Rana's strength was increasing every day the son of Bherav Das Bagal went to the Mughal Viceroy and told him that the Chief of Barwani was defying the authority of the all powerful monarch, and was plundering the district of Khargoon. The Viceroy sent an army, under Nawab Asef, with orders to apprehend the presumptuous Rana. He arrived at Sorana at the head of a large army and thence wrote to Parwat Sinh to surrender himself to the Imperial army. The haughty Rana replied that he defied the strength of the infidels, and that if the Nawab ventured to enter the gates of Barwani he would cut his head off. The son of Bherav Das Bagal then led his troops, recruited by a strong re-inforcement from the Nawab, against Barwani, and a battle was fought in which the Bagal Chief was defeated and the commander of the Nawab's battalion, slain. The son of Bagal again went to the Mahomedan officer and besought his help, and the Nawab sent another army under the command of Saheb Rai. The new general, on reaching Khirki, wrote to Parwat Sinh to put down his arms and sue for peace by personally attending the Nawab's Court, but the heroic Rana sent a reply, exactly similar to one he had sent on the previous occasion. Saheb Rai, on the receipt of such an insolent reply, made preparations for war and marched on to Barwani.

Mohan Sinh, who was leading the life of a fugitive for the last 12 years, and who had during that period made several futile attempts for the recovery of Barwani, at last went to Saheb Rai and joined his standard.

Saheb Rai received him kindly and reported his arrival to the Nawab, who in turn, communicated the news to the Emperor, soliciting the orders of the supreme government. The claims of Mohan Sinh were duly recognised, and he was carried to Anjir and installed on the *gadi*. Parwat Sinh, when he learnt this, was much perplexed, and unable any longer to fight with Mohan Sinh, who was then ruling at Anjir under the auspices of the Mughal Emperor, removed his wife and children to Narsdola and himself began to make preparations for the impending struggle. Putting the fort of Narsdola in proper repairs, he marched to Raipur, where a battle was fought between the armies of Parwat Sinh and Mohan Sinh. The former was defeated, and he fled with his family to Ali-Rajpur. Jasrup Sinh, who was then reigning there, promised his help to his royal guest. He proceeded in person to Barwani along with Parwat Sinh, where Mohan Sinh offered them a strong resistance. A struggle ensued, which lasted for eight days, in which many men on both sides were killed, and the field was covered over with 'mountains of the dead.' At last, Jasrup Sinh and Parwat Sinh were repulsed with a heavy loss, and returned to Ali-Rajpur. Mohan Sinh then rebuilt the fortress of Ramgarh and equipped it with a strong garrison. The unfortunate Parwat Sinh was captured at Rajpur and kept in a prison, by his uncle, Mohan Sinh. After a close confinement for twelve years, the rivals were reconciled, and Parwat Sinh, on giving a written assurance, was allowed to remain in peace at Barwani. Mohan Sinh then proceeded to Delhi to pay homage to the Emperor, and Parwat Sinh, taking advantage of his absence, began to conspire against the Rana with a view to seize the throne. Mohan Sinh was soon apprised of the mischief and hastening to Barwani, he once more imprisoned the arch-conspirator. When Prince Bedarbakhsha was passing through Khandesh, Parwat Sinh managed to obtain an interview with the Prince and solicited his support in pushing his claims to the *gadi*. At that very moment the discontented ryots of Barwani happened to be there, complaining to the Prince of the many wrongs suffered by them at the hands of Mohan Sinh. They told the Prince that the Rana was devastating the district of Khargoon and its surrounding territories, and was a scourge to his ryots. The Prince, determined upon putting him down, marched with his troops to Barwani. The Rana opposed him at the head of his army, but was repulsed and had to seek shelter in the adjacent hills. His enemies, however, did not leave him alone. Men were despatched in all directions to find out his place of concealment. Raja Jaya Sinh, who was favourably disposed towards the flying Rana, secretly sent him a word not to venture

out but remain concealed in a place of security. When no trace of the Rana could be obtained even after a weary search, the Prince returned to **Khandesh**, appointing **Sardar Khan** as the governor of **Barwani** and **Rajpur**. The **Rana**, thus saved from imminent death, proceeded at once to **Delhi** and laid his grievances before the **Emperor**, who restored to him his lost throne. Thus was **Mohan Sinh** declared for the second time the legitimate sovereign of **Barwani**, in the year 1708.

Mohan Sinh had next to withstand the attacks of **Kanuji Raja**, **Kabirsha**, **Holkarsha** and **Fakrudinsha**, but victory attended the **Rana's** arms and the invaders had to retire defeated and disgraced. **Parwat Sinh** was, after some time, liberated from prison and sent to **Rajpur**. He had five sons, all of whom claimed from the **Rana** their shares in the family estate. **Mohan Sinh** disallowed their claims, which brought on a civil war, resulting in the defeat of the rival claimants. Although **Mohan Sinh** was now tired of constant warfare, he knew that as long as **Parwat Sinh** and his sons were alive they would not allow him to rest in peace. **Parwat Sinh** once happened to arrive at **Barwani** and pitching his tent outside the walls, began to ill-treat the poor inhabitants. A potter's daughter fell into the hands of the outlaw, who cut off her head and tearing her stomach, filled it with dust and stones and exposing to the public gaze the mutilated carcass on the gate of the city, he returned to **Rajpur**. **Mohan Sinh**, no longer able to brook the indignity, thus offered to his authority, at once marched upon **Rajpur**, resolved to chastise the delinquent. The siege of **Rajpur** lasted for 11 days without any decisive result. **Parwat Sinh**, who had grown infirm, at last sent proposals of peace through a **Brahman**. The **Rana**, who had led his troops with the avowed object of taking vengeance on **Parwat Sinh**, accepted those proposals and recalled his troops. The flame of revenge that was burning within the **Rana's** breast had not been extinguished and he now resorted to treachery and foul play. Cleverly concealing his plans of revenge, he pretended to be very kind and affable towards **Parwat Sinh** and his family. Once inviting them to a dinner, he accommodated them in a house, and when all had assembled to partake of the entertainment, he shut its gates and set it on fire. The unfortunate victims were all burnt to ashes and **Mohan Sinh** was at last relieved of one of his most inveterate foes. The **Jani**, or **Brahman**, who had brought the peace proposals at **Rajpur**, was also arrested and thrown into prison.

The whole province of **Malwa** was groaning under the oppression of the **Marathas**, who were at this period carrying fire and sword in every

corner of the district under the leadership of the powerful Malhar Rao Holkar. He once proceeded as far as Nimad, at the head of his band; and Mohan Sinh, trembling with fear, went out to appease the invader. He gave, as a brotherly gift, the *paragna* of Nagalwadi to the wife of Malhar Rao, in consideration of her tying the *Raksha* (protective thread) round his arm. He also mortgaged to him the district of Biahmangaon, granted Sorana in return for the service of the five horsemen, and pleased his minister, Mukund Rao, by bestowing on him the *paragna* of Vatwara. Thus by a free distribution of gifts the Rana saved his dominions from the ravages of the Maratha free-booters.

Rana Mohan Sinh had three sons, Madhu Sinh, Anop Sinh and Pahad Sinh. When the Rana grew old, he freed himself from the cares and worries of government by transferring the whole administration to his second son, Anop Sinh. The heir-apparent, Madhu Sinh, seeing that his rights were overlooked, angrily withdrew from the capital and assembling a mighty following, pitched his camp near the Bal gate. Madhu Sinh was a wicked and a scheming youth, and as the wary Rana was always on his guard against the machinations of his son, he was not able to gain his object. The villain once went to his father and bowing his head at his feet, wept bitterly and shewed extreme contrition, saying that as his father had in his extreme wisdom thought it proper to disinherit him and make him dependent on his younger brother for subsistence, he was willing to abide by his decision. He vowed by the sacred feet of his father that he would not raise his head against his brother but rest in peace and contentment. The aged Rana, seeing his son cry piteously, took compassion on him and with fatherly affection embraced him, exclaiming, "you are the light of mine eyes: between you and Anop Sinh there is not the slightest distinction." The dissembling Madhu Sinh returned to his abode and the confiding father became from that day blind to the villainous tricks of his son. One morning when the Rana was engaged in his daily worship of the idol, the faithless boy rushed towards his apartment, attended by seven or eight armed men. The aged father had by his side the family priest and a menial, who were taken unawares by the wicked assassins. Placing his men to guard the outer-gate, he chained it from within and with drawn sword ran furiously to gain the inner room, where his venerable sire was offering his morning prayers to the Deity. The Brahman shut the doors, but they were broken open with great violence and the murderer, mad with fury, rushed in and at a single stroke severed the head of his own progenitor.

The Brahman, too, was murdered, but the *Khawas* (servant) ran for his life and mounting the gallery, cried for help. Madhu Sinh's men, who were stationed at the outer gate, shot the poor man dead. Madhu Sinh then caused Anop Sinh and his partisans to be arrested and entrusting them to the care of his lieutenant, Jasrat, a Brahman by birth, himself hastened to Riagarh to take charge of the State treasury. Pahad Sinh, their youngest brother, learnt with dismay the news of the political crisis at Barwani, and running to the scene of action, he slew Jasrat and released Anop Sinh from restraint. The two brothers proceeded to Raigarh and besieged the citadel. The siege lasted for eleven days, when Madhu Sinh displayed the flag of truce and submission. Pahad Sinh entered the fort and though Madhu Sinh lay prostrate at his feet, he heeded not his demonstrations, but dragged him to the presence of Anop Sinh. The enraged brother ordered him to be thrown into prison, loaded with heavy chains and while the soldiers were removing him to the place of incarceration, he terminated his life by swallowing poison on the road. Anop Sinh then reigned in peace, but dying shortly after, was succeeded by Umed Sinh. His reign was an uneventful one and after his death the *gadi* was occupied by Mohan Sinh II. In the beginning of his reign he felt much aggrieved by the constant inroads of the Marathas, but when the English first made their entry into these districts, in the year 1818, for the subjugation of the Bhils, the Chief of Barwani entered into an alliance with the British Government, then represented by Sir John Malcolm. Under the terms of that agreement Barwani was placed under the protection of the Paramount Power and Mohan Sinh II. from that date began to rule in peace. After his death Jaswant Sinh ascended the *gadi*. Rana Jaswant Sinh was temporarily removed from the administration of the State, in 1861, owing to his complete incapacity to rule over his principality; but was restored to powers in 1873, on the distinct understanding that he should administer his affairs with justice and ability. On his death his brother, Indrajit Sinh, succeeded to the throne, but he was not entrusted with independent management at the very outset. In 1883 he was placed in charge of one *paragna*; gradually his powers were extended, and in 1886 he was placed in charge of the sole administration. Subsequently, however, his incapacity was brought to the notice of the Government, who considered the advisability of curtailing his powers. The claim preferred to the village of Datvara by Maharaja Holkar in 1868 was not substantiated, as the Indore State could not make out its title. The village had been granted in service *jagir* to Holkar's Diwan, Naro

Ganeshji, in 1771, but it had been resumed in about 1812. Similarly *Holkar's* right of levying excise revenue in the same village, put forth in 1886, was adjudicated against him.

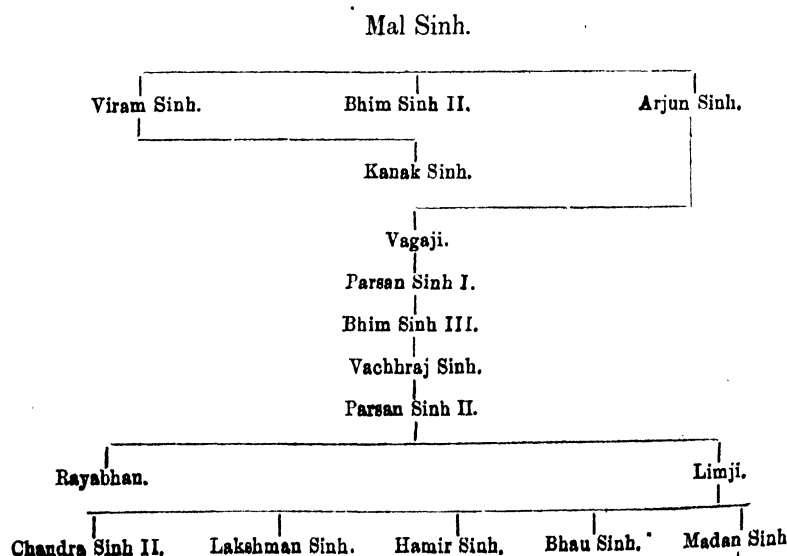
Rana Indrajit Singh died in 1894, leaving behind him a minor son, aged only 7 years, named Ranjit Singh, the present Rana. During his minority the State is under the supervision of the British Government. A Superintendent is appointed to look after its affairs.

Barwani pays no tribute to the British Government. It, however, pays its contribution of 4,000 *Hali* rupees towards the expenses of maintaining the Malwa Bhil corps.

The Rana of Barwani has judicial inferior powers and receives a salute of 9 guns.

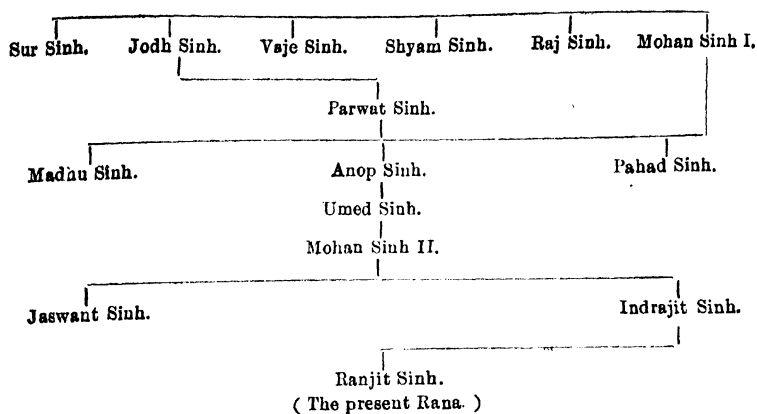
Genealogical tree.

Dhank, Dhir Raj, Vaje Raj, Apalsi, Hari Raj Singh, Hipal Singh, Haripal Singh, Ude Singh, Khuman Singh, Megh Raj, Gokwan Singh, Bhim Singh, Ram Singh, Indrajit Singh I., Chandra Singh I., Mamar Singh, Kayandar Singh, Kam Raj Singh, Pratap Singh, Mokhal Singh I., Sobhag Singh, Samar Singh, Shyam Singh, Mokal Singh II., Vajepal Singh, Ramnath Singh, Ghadial Singh, Balwant Singh and.—



BARWANI (Wadhvani).

(803)



Residence.—Barwani, Bhopawar Agency ; Central India.



CHHOTA-UDEPUR.

Area.—873 sq. miles. Population.—93,420.

Revenue.—2,05,500 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the Baria State; on the east, by Ali-Rajpur in Central India; on the south, by the Sankheda Mewas estates, in Rewa Kantha; and on the west, by Baroda.

The rulers of Chhota-Udepur are Chauhan Rajputs of the Khichi sept. The progenitor of this house, Anhal, was begotten from the sacrificial pond on the top of Mount Abu, by the sage Vasishtha. One of the descendants of Anhal, Ajayapal, founded the city of Ajmere, and made it his capital. One Manekrai, in his line, assumed the title of 'the lord of Ajmere or Sambhar'. The descendants of Manekrai, frightened by the constant inroads of the neighbouring Mussalmans, left the capital and settling in Sindh-Sagar, established a new government, extending over an area of 68 kos. They founded a new city between Sindh and Behut, and calling it Khichpur Patan, removed their seat of government thither. It was from that date that their descendants obtained the cognomen of Khichi-Chauhan.

Birbilandev *alias* Dharmagaj, a descendant of Manekrai, conquered from Mahmud Ghazni the territory of Ajmere at the end of the tenth century, and once more made Ajmere his capital. Birbilandev was, after his death, succeeded by Vishaldev, who was born in 1010, and who reigned till his death, in 1074.

Among the Chauhan kings of Ajmere, Vishaldev obtained the greatest celebrity. The Mussalmans, in his time, began insidiously to make encroachments upon lands owned by Hindu chiefs, and a strong coalition of Rajput chiefs was formed under the leadership of Vishaldev to regain those lands. Bhimdev Solanki, the lord of Gujarat, remained aloof from this coalition, and Vishaldev led his troops against Gujarat, and subjugating its proud monarch, returned to Ajmere. To commemorate this victory he founded a town on the spot, where the contending armies had met and named it after him 'Visalnagar' (Visnagar). After the death of Vishaldev, the *gadi* of Sambhar (Ajmere) was successively occupied by Sarangdev, Ano, Jayapal, Ananddev, Someshwar and Prithu Raj Chauhan.

It would not be considered out of place to recount here a short narration of the last named celebrated monarch. Anangpal, the Tuar sovereign

of Delhi, had no male offspring. Of his two daughters, one, Kamaladevi, was married to Someshwar Chauhan of Ajnere, while the other was given in marriage to Jayachand Rathod, the last of the Rajput kings of Kanauj. Kamaladevi gave birth to Prithu Raj in 1159. Anangpal growing old, desired to free himself from the cares and worries of the empire, and, betaking himself to a forest, to pass the remainder of his life in pious contemplation. He adopted his grand-son, Prithu Raj, as his heir and placing him on the throne of Delhi and committing to his charge the State-treasury, himself retired to Badrikashram.

From the celebrated Epic, styled 'Prithu Raj Raso,' composed by the well-known court-bard, Chand, it appears that Prithu Raj was endued with superhuman valour. He had gained several battles, and had earned for himself immortal fame. He had chastised many of the rebel chiefs and had conquered vast dominions. Through the fear of this great monarch, many had concealed themselves in neighbouring hills and forests, while several had sought mercy at his feet, with shoes in their hands, as a mark of humiliating submission. He had on several occasions crossed his sword with Bhimdev II. of Gujarat and other Rajput sovereigns. When Jayachand Rathod of Kanauj was engaged in performing the *Raja Suya* (kingly)* sacrifice, Prithu Raj marched upon his capital and demolishing the sacrifice, carried away the Rathod's fair daughter, Sanyogta. He was successful in no less than seven engagements with Shahab-ud-Din Ghori, in each of which he captured and released the vanquished Moslem. There is a stanza (*Chhappo*) in 'Prithu Raj Raso,' in which that monarch is described as,

“Such is lord Prithu Raj as Kahan (Krishna) in Gokul,
Such is lord Prithu Raj, as the mighty Bhimaka,
Such is lord Prithu Raj, as the proud king Rawana,
Such is lord Prithu Raj, as Rama, who conquered Rawana,
Of six and thirty years age, endued with thirty-two qualities,
Thus sings the poet Chand, “such is the great monarch, Prithu Raj”.

In the seventh encounter with Shahab-ud-Din, this chivalrous monarch was defeated and taken prisoner and had his eyes blown out. The victor carried him to Ghazni, and kept him in close confinement. After Prithu Raj, no Hindu sovereign occupied the throne of Delhi.

* This sacrifice is performed by a monarch, who subdues all his competitors and rules as an universal Sovereign.

At Ghazni, an iron collar, weighing one hundred *maunds*, was thrown round Prithu Raj's neck. Chand, the favourite bard of Prithu, hearing that his lord was incarcerated in a dungeon at Ghazni, and was tortured by the infidel monarch, at once proceeded to the Moslem capital, and won the Emperor's favour and confidence by his sweet and delightful poetry. He once obtained permission to enter the hole, in which the brave Prithu was confined, and have an interview with his late master. When the engaged lion heard that his favourite Chand was coming to meet him, his heart leapt with joy, and he, who had, all the time, lain prostrate on the ground, groaning under the enormous weight of the iron-collar, now jumped up to embrace his loving friend. When this circumstance was brought to the knowledge of the Emperor, he grew apprehensive that, though blind, he would, if he so liked it, some day bring death and destruction upon himself and all the true-believers. He ordered a new iron-collar of equal weight to be thrown round his neck, but Chand, whose influence with the Emperor was increasing every day, pleaded mercy, on behalf of the crest fallen Rajput, and got the Imperial orders countermanded. He also told Shahab-ud-Din that if Prithu Raj were let loose he would now and then regale his Majesty and his courtiers by performing feats of extraordinary valour and skill. Chand once suggested that Prithu Raj was so skilful in archery that if seven iron sheets, each weighing 100 *maunds* be suspended, equally distant from each other, and if he be asked to fling his arrow he would do it with such skill and violence, that, even though blind, he would pierce all the seven sheets and hit the mark. Struck with astonishment, the Emperor once expressed his desire to witness Prithu Raj, performing the wonderful feat, described by Chand. The bow and the quiver found on Prithu Raj's person, when he was taken prisoner, and retained by the Emperor in his possession as a trophy, were for a time made over to the blind prisoner, who was ordered to perform the feat. Seven iron sheets were suspended and Shahab-ud-Din took his seat on a raised *dais*, just opposite the place, where Prithu Raj was made to stand. It was so arranged that the Emperor should himself strike the iron sheet with a small pebble and order Prithu Raj to fling his arrow, by uttering the word 'Bravo'. Chand had told the Shah that the blind man would pierce those sheets by simply following the direction of the sound, caused by the striking of the pebble on the suspended sheets. Prithu Raj, loaded with heavy chains, was brought into an arena, and Chand, allowed to stand by his side. He had secretly taken an exact measurement of the enclosure and its surroundings, and he gave

a hint to his master of the situation of the Emperor's throne, in the following significant verse:

'Four poles, twenty-four *gajs* and eight fingers apart
Sits the proud Sultan; miss not thy aim, oh, brave Chauhan!
By the self-same bow, O Chauhan, Rama did conquer Rawana,
By the self-same bow, O Chauhan, Arjuna lopped the head of Karana,
By the self-same bow, O Chauhan, Shankar killed the Tripura demon,
By the self-same bow, O Chauhan, Lakshman pierced the deadly
Bhramar (bee),

That bow has fallen into thy hands, so says truly the bard Chand,
O Chauhan, proud lord of Sambhar, miss not the principal sheet.'

When everything was ready the Emperor struck the iron sheets with a pebble, crying, 'Bravo Pithal Bravo.' Acting on the advice given by his friend, Chand, Prithu Raj, giving up the seven sheets, hurled his arrow in the direction from which the voice of the Emperor had proceeded. His aim was so exact that the missile pierced the fore-head of the Emperor, who fell head-long from his throne. The whole conclave was thrown into confusion, and a few rushed towards Prithu Raj and Chand. The two friends had given up all hopes of life, and had pre-determined to kill themselves instead of dying ignominiously at the hands of the infidels. Before the Emperor's men could reach the spot, where they were standing, each cut the other's throat by the sword, and perished there in 1193. We can not vouchsafe for the historical accuracy of the above narration, for it has been taken from bardic legends current in the country. According to Mahomedan historians, Prithu Raj was, soon after his capture, ordered by the Emperor to be slain.

The descendants and clansmen of Prithu Raj, after his disastrous defeat, fled to Malwa, and settled in a district, which is still known by the name of Khichiwada. They obtained possession of several villages and set up an independent sovereignty at Gagroon, under the leadership of Khengar Sinh.

One of the descendants of Khengar Sinh, Hamir (Khichi), obtained immortal renown in the field of Ranthambhor against Alla-ud-Din Khilji, one of the most powerful Emperors of Delhi. His descendants then migrated to the eastern part of Gujarat, under the leadership of Palaude Khichi, and conquered the territory of Champaner, situated at the foot of the Pawagarh mountain, then held by a Bhil chief, of the name of Champa.

On the *gadi* of Champaner there flourished in succession, after Palande's death, Ramdev, Changdev, Chachingdev, Sonamdev, Palhansinh, Jitkaran, Kampu Rawal, Vir Dhaval, Savraj, Raghavdev, Trimbakbhup, Gangrajeshwar and Jayasinh Deo. The last of these, Jayasinh Deo, better known in history by the name of Patai Rawal, ruled at Champaner contemporaneously with Sultan Mahmud Shah II., of Gujarat. A faction of nobles, espousing the cause of his son, Prince Muzaffar, sprang up at Ahmedabad, who began to devise means for the destruction of the Emperor. Mahmud, with a view to create a diversion in their party, proposed an invasion on the fort of Champaner, * where many of their number, he thought, would perish; but when he saw that there lay insurmountable difficulties in the way of their accomplishing the dire plot, he gave up the idea of sending them against that celebrated hill-fort. He again made preparations to besiege that fort in 1482. In that year also Patai Rawal was reigning at Champaner. Mussalman historians call him Beni Rai, while the Hindus call him Fattai or Patai Rawal.

When the Rawal learnt that the Sultan was approaching at the head of his troops to invest his fortress, he issued out of his mountain fastness and carried fire and sword into the neighbouring territories, owning allegiance to the Shah. When the first out-burst of fury had subsided, he began to fear the consequences of his own acts and sent an envoy to the Sultan, seeking for pardon. Patai had done incalculable mischief and the Shah, fuming with rage, turned a deaf ear to all the proposals of the envoy. Fifty thousand brave Mussalmans lay encamped at the foot of the Pawagarh mountain, on 17th March, 1483. They were, within a few days, reinforced by fresh troops, headed by Sultan Mahmud in person. The Rawal once more sent a messenger of peace, but he, too, was repulsed like his predecessor. At last Patai began to make sure his position and resolved to remain on the defensive. The Shah's troops had beleaguered the fort on all sides and the Rajput garrison now and then made sallies on them and destroyed many of their number. Once they attacked the besiegers with such violence that the Sultan was compelled to raise the siege in order to effectively oppose their

* Champaner with its hill-fort was built by Jamb *alias* Champo, an associate of Vamraj. It was from him that the town derived the name of Champaner, while the hill-fort is known by the name of Pawangarh or Pawagarh. On its highest peak is the temple of the Goddess Kalika. At present this hill station, together with the village at its foot, is within the limits of Kalol in the Panch Mahals Collectorate. Champaner is now only a small hamlet enclosed with walls. The summit of Pawgarh is 2,500 feet high from the level of the sea.

onslaught. A stubborn fight took place, but in the end, the Hindus, who had grown weak and indolent, had to fly back and seek refuge within the fort. The Mussalmans did not abandon the siege, but on the contrary to arouse confidence and kindle religious enthusiasm within their hearts, the Sultan ordered a mosque to be built there, which is still known by the name of 'Jumma masjid.' There was a secret passage in the fort, by which the Rajputs went out for bath every morning. When this was shown to the Mussalmans, a ray of hope flashed within their breasts, and at once effecting a breach in the western wall, they gallantly stormed that passage. The Rajputs grew desperate, and boldly determined to lead the forlorn hope against their enemy. They first raised large funeral pyres within the citadel and consigned to the flames their wives, daughters, infants and the infirm, together with their valuables, to prevent them from falling into the hands of the infidels. When they were all reduced to ashes, they performed the purificatory ablution, and putting on the saffron robe, with blood-shot eyes, they bounced upon the Mussalmans, like infuriated lions. Many of the brave Rajputs and Mussalmans rolled on the ground, and blood began to flow in torrents. Patai Rawal and his minister, drenched in their own blood, fell into the hands of the victors. Of the Rajputs many were killed on the spot, while those who survived fled to different parts of the country. It is said that when Patai Rawal and his minister, after their recovery from the wounds which they had received in the fight, were brought to the presence of the Sultan, they entreated him to spare their lives, saying that, if allowed to live, they would embrace Islamism. Mahmud Shah heeded them not and ordered them to be brutally despatched.

Thus did the hill-fort of Champaner fall into the hands of Mahmud Shah, on 17th November 1484, when trumpets, kettle-drums and other instruments were ordered to be sounded, and the Crescent was unfurled on the turret of the castle. Shah Mahmud had similarly stormed the hill-fort of Junagarh held by Rih Mandlik, in 1476, and when eight years after, he captured the fort of Pawagarh, he received from his contemporaries the significant sobriquet of 'Mahmud Begado.' (Begara)

According to a legend, Patai Rawal during one of the *Navratri* nights went out in the city to hear the maids of Champaner singing amorous songs, in a lovely chorus, immortalising the sport of Gopis with Shri Krishna. In one of those groups, he saw a woman so charmingly beautiful that he was infatuated, and seizing her by the hand, he asked her to become his queen. This fascinating woman turned out to be *Kalika Mata* herself,

who, dressed as a mortal woman, had come out to regale herself on that festive night. The goddess in rage pronounced a curse that he would lose his kingdom; and the sack of Champaner is attributed to this divine curse. The songs of Patai Rawal and *Kalika* are to this day sung all over Gujarat. Patai Rawal is described by several writers as a lewd and licentious prince. Patai Rawal was killed, and his kingdom fell into the hands of the Mussalmans. He had three sons, Rayasinhji, Limbaji and Tejsinhji, of whom the eldest had died during his father's life time, the second escaped the general catastrophe, while the third was imprisoned and converted to Mahomedanism by the Sultan.

Rayasinhji, the pre-deceased son of Patai, had left behind him two sons, Prithirajji and Dungarsinhji, who escaped to Hamph, a small hamlet on the northern bank of the river Narbada. There they set up a new principality, acquiring fresh possessions by force of arms. The Sultan, to prevent them from carrying on plunders in those districts, agreed to give them one-fourth of the revenues (*chauth*) derived from those villages. They gradually enhanced their power and influence, and extended the boundaries of their new acquisition, which comprised within it all the territories, lying between Rajpipla and Godhra. As these regions were conquered by the joint efforts of the two brothers, Prithirajji and Dungarsinhji, they were equally partitioned between them both. Mohan fell to the lot of Prithirajji, while Dungarsinhji obtained Baria. They then shifted to those villages and setting up independent principalities, became respectively the founders of the present States of Chhota-Udepur and Devgad-Baria.

That portion of the territory, of which Mohan was the capital, has been called Pal by Mahomedan chroniclers. They describe it as measuring 60 *kos* in length and 40 *kos* in breadth, during the latter part of the 16th century of the Christian era. They also say that many wild elephants were to be seen in the surrounding jungles, and the Chauhan rulers then maintained an army, consisting of 600 horse and 15,000 foot.

In the 18th century there flourished Baji Rawal, several degrees removed from Prithirajji, who removed his capital to Chhota-Udepur. During his reign, the whole country was agitated by risings and rebellions, which marked the fall of the Mughals and the rise of the Marathas. Baji Rawal was also a loser by the change; he was deprived of a considerable portion of his dominions, and the territory then left in his possession was of so inferior a quality that it yielded a very meagre income every year.

Besides that, the Gaekwad had levied from the State a heavy tribute, which the Rawal found too hard to remit.

Baji Rawal was, after his death, succeeded by one of his distant cousins*, Durjansinhji, who, in turn, was succeeded by his nephew, Amarsinhji. After his death, Abhayasinhji ascended the *gadi*, but falling from his horse, he died, and was succeeded by Rayasinhji.

Rayasinhji died in 1819, and was succeeded by Prithirajji II. During his reign, the annual tribute levied by the Gaekwad was fixed in 1822, at 10,500 rupees *Babashai*, and the State was removed from the control of the Gaekwad, and placed under the protection of the British Crown.

Prithirajji died in 1822, without issue, and was succeeded by his cousin, Gumansinhji. He was a religious and generous prince, who, after a reign of 29 years, died in 1851, without leaving any male offspring. He was, therefore, succeeded by Jitsinhji, the son of his brother, Motisinhji. During his reign, the rebel chief, Tatia Topi, who figured so conspicuously during the Mutiny of 1857, marched upon Chhota-Udepur, on 29th November 1858, at the head of a large army and a well-manned artillery. Jitsinhji, unable to cope with such a powerful army, remained a silent spectator of the sack of his capital and the other ravages perpetrated by the bloody followers of Tatia. They remained at Chhota-Udepur for a few days, summoning the wild tribes, inhabiting those regions, to join their standard and then proceeded towards Baroda with a large following. But the detachment of British troops sent in pursuit of them, as well as Major Buckle, the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha, soon overtook them at Chhota-Udepur. They vigorously attacked the rabble that had assembled under Tatia's lead and put them to rout. The cowardly Tatia and a few of his followers succeeded in effecting their escape.

Jitsinhji expired on 7th July 1881 at mid-day. A competent ruler, he was yet greedy and avaricious. He often harassed his subjects and extorted money from them, by imposing heavy fines for trivial offences. His subordinates and servants were in constant dread of losing their money. He left behind him, nine wives (*Ranis*), seven sons and six daughters to bemoan his loss. The names of his seven sons were Motisinhji, Chandrasinhji, Indrasinhji, Bharatsinhji, Khumansinhji, Himatsinhji and Bhawansinhji.

* According to another account between Prithirajji, the founder of Chhota-Udepur, and Durjansinhji there flourished six chiefs, Karansinhji, Vajcsinhji, Gumansinhji, Rayasinhji, Tejsinhji (the founder of Tigarh) and Juswantsinhji ; this last must be the same as Baji Rawal.

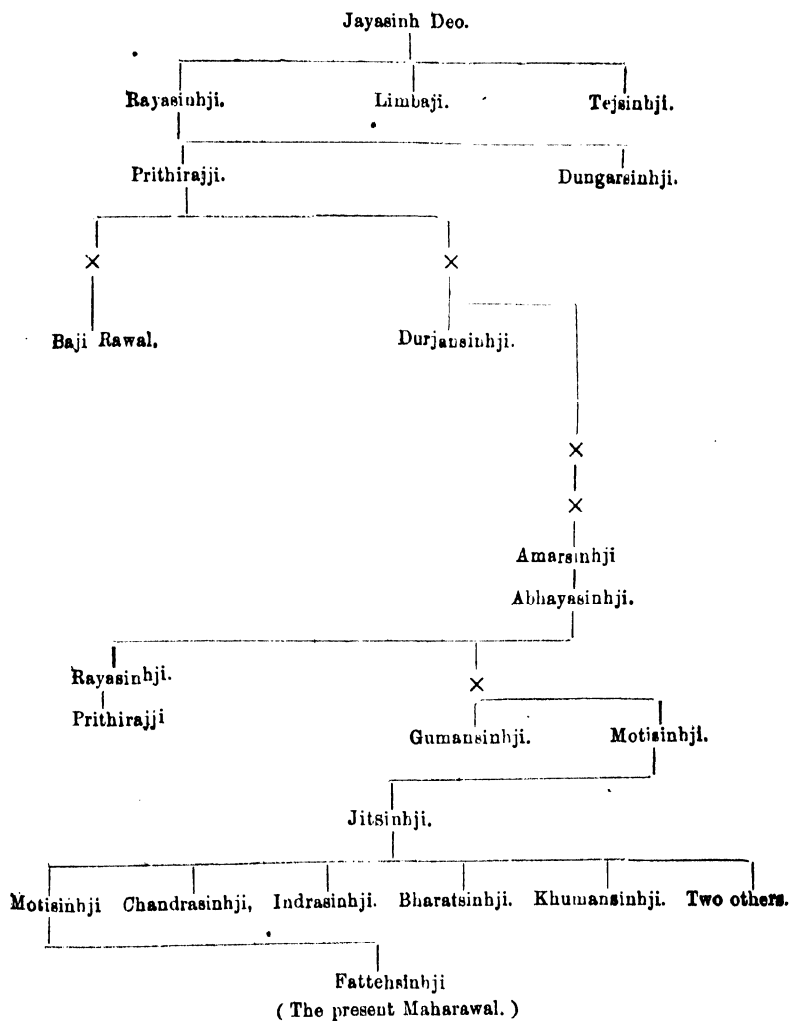
sinhji. Jitsinhji had a greater liking for his second son, Chandrasinhji, whom he wanted to make his sole heir to the *gadi*, but after his death his eldest son, Motisinhji, pressed his claims to the inheritance; and the Government of Bombay deciding in his favour, Mr, Allen, Assistant to the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha, went in person to Chhota-Udepur on 11th August 1881, and placed Motisinhji on the paternal throne.

Motisinhji died in the year 1895, and has since been succeeded by Fattehsinhji, a minor. During his minority the State is under the British management. An Administrator has been appointed to look after its affairs. Mr. Mansukhram Mulji is the present Administrator. The young Maharawal is studying at the Rajkot Rujkumar College.

Chhota-Udepur is ranked among the second class States of Rewa Kantha and its ruler holds superior judicial powers. He is entitled to a salute of 9 guns.



Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Chhota-Udepur, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.



LUNAWARA.

Area.—388 sq. miles. Population.—90,153.

Revenue.—2,21,300 rupees.

The territory of Lunawara is situated in the northern division of Rewa Kantha. On the north it touches Mewad and the Dungarpur State; on the east it is bounded by the Sunth and Kadana States; on the south it is touched by the district of Godhra in the Panch Mahals; while on the west it is bounded by the territory of Balasinor.

The rulers of Lunawara are Rajputs of the Virpura Solanki race. They claim their descent from the Solanki or Chalukya sovereigns, who ruled, at Anhilwad Patan, over Gujarat. Subsequently the Solanki tribe was further subdivided into seven sections, of which the Waghelas formed the most prominent branch. The Virpura section of the Solankis, from which the rulers of this State have descended, may also be regarded as having sprung out from this subdivision. According to old traditions and folklores preserved by the *Bhats* or the family-bards of these chiefs, there reigned a king of the name of Bhuvanaditya, in times of yore, over the little tract, watered by the rivers Ganges and Jumna, which is presently styled the Doab, but which was then known by the name of Tunk-Toda, and his seat of government was at Kanyakubja, the ancient appellation of the city of Kanauj. The Solanki chief, Bhuvanaditya, had two sons, Raj and Bij, who subsequently gained for themselves lasting fame by their chivalrous valour and exploits. They were the first to proceed as far as Somnath, in Kathiawad. Gujarat was then governed by a Chavada prince, Raja Samatsinhji, who ruled at Anhilwad Patan. His sister, Liladevi, was taken in marriage by Prince Raj, and by him she became the mother of the valiant Mulraj. In qualities of head and heart, Mulraj excelled many of his brother-chiefs; his intelligence and courage were of a very high order; but at the same time these good qualities were equally counterpoised by his avarice and wickedness. With the evil motive of seizing the kingdom for himself, Mulraj slew his uncle, Samatsinhji, and wearing the diadem on his own brow, ascended the *gadi* of Anhilwad Patan. One by one, he killed every one of his maternal relatives in order to secure his own title to the throne.

According to the legends of the *Bhats*, Dhavaldev, a descendant of Mulraj, carried his arms as far as the city of Dholka in 1104; and once again in 1134, he marched at the head of his troops to Kalarigarh, situated in the district of Chunwal. A great-grandson of Dhavaldev, Virbhadr by name,

left Kalari and took up his abode at Virpur, a village, which is now held by the Nawabs of Balasinor. Viro Bariya, the Thakore ruling over Virpur at the time, was murdered by Virbhadra, who seized the petty chiefship for himself in 1225, and founded a new *Raj* at that village. His descendants are known after him as the Virpura section of the Solankis.

After the death of Virbhadra, his lineal descendants, Kikoji, Mahansinh, Mahvsinh, Gomsinh, Prathampalaksinh, Vikransinh and Vithalsinh successively ascended the *gadi* of Virpur. The last-named Chief transferred his seat of government from Virpur to a little village, named Diya, situated on the banks of the Mahi, near Lunawara.

Bhimsinh was a descendant of Vithalsinh, and he, in 1434, left Diya, and fixed his seat of government at Lunawara. He was succeeded on that *gadi* by Gangdas, Udo Rano, Raghavranasinh *alias* Wagsinh and Malo Rano in due course of time. The reign of Malo Rano lasted till 1575; he was followed by Vanvirji, who governed till 1594. On his death, Akherajji was installed on the *gadi*.

After the demise of Akherajji there was a break in the regular line of descent from him. The succession to the throne then passed to Kumbhp Rano, an infant, who was a distant relation of the family, and who was brought up from the little village of Gandhari. He held the reins of government till the beginning of the seventeenth century. He was succeeded by Jitsinhji, who held the *gadi* till 1618. On his death, Triloksinhji and Dayaldasji successively occupied the throne. Dayaldas ruled till 1637, and his son, Chandrasinhji, was at the helm of affairs till the year 1674.

In the time of Chandrasinhji, Idar was ruled over by Prince Punjo, a son of Rao Jagannatha. His brother, Arjundas, had accepted service under the Emperor of Delhi, and was now employed as a patrol over the Imperial possessions in Gujarat. Once while returning from his duty he attacked the village of Ranasan. The village was governed by a Rajput chief of the Rehvar tribe. In this expedition Arjundas was accompanied by the princes of Lunawara, Banswara, Dungarpur and Devalia. The offended Rehvars fell upon them with great fury, and surrounding them on all sides, cut them to pieces. The princes of Lunawara, Dungarpur and Devalia were amongst the slain and their bodies were cremated by the Prince of Banswara, who alone survived the combat.

On the death of Chandrasinhji, in 1674, his son, Virsinhji, rose to the *gadi*. His rule lasted till 1711, and after him, his son, Naharsinhji, wore the crown till 1735.

Under the *regime* of Naharsinhji his dominions were attacked by Haidar Kuli Khan, the Mughal Viceroy of Ahmedabad, who extorted 80,000 rupees from the State, to cover the expenditure of his army. It was this Naharsinhji, who, in 1718, laid the first foundation of the big wall that surrounds the town of Lunawara.

Naharsinhji had three sons, Jitsinhji, Jagji and Umedsinhji; of whom the eldest, Jitsinhji, had died during his father's life-time. He had, however, left behind him four sons, Wakhatsinhji, Budhsinhji, Sahebsinhji and Adesinhji. The eldest, Wakhatsinhji, was installed on the *gadi* on his grandfather's death.

The reign of Wakhatsinhji was marked by another Mughal invasion on his dominions. The Suba of Ahmedabad, probably Sher Khan II., came down with a strong force upon Virpur. The village was then held by Sultan Singh, a *Thundar*, on behalf of the Chief of Lunawara. The Mughal Suba vanquished him and took from him two horses and 3,000 rupees, in cash, as the price of a general amnesty.

Wakhatsinhji expired in 1758, leaving two sons behind him, Dipsinhji and Daulatsinhji, of whom the elder, Dipsinhji, was called to the throne. In the very first year of his reign, the Peshwa's Viceroy over that province, who was known by the name of Sadashiv Ramchandra, invaded his territories and made him prisoner. He was kept in confinement as long as the amount of his ransom, which was fixed at 50,000 rupees, remained unpaid by him.

Dipsinhji died in 1782, and was succeeded by his son, Prince Durjansalji, on the throne. The new Chief ruled only for four years; for in 1786 he was secretly assassinated by his minister, Shankardas, the Desai of Nariad. The wicked minister set up one Jagatsinhji, a half brother of the murdered Chief, on the *gadi*. Khushalkunwarba, the mother of Durjansalji, accompanied by the widowed Rani and the infant Prince, Pratapsinhji, succeeded in escaping to a distant place of safety, where they remained unmolested for some years. At the head of a chosen band of followers, they again returned to Lunawara, slew Shankardas, and expelling Jagatsinhji, who was a mere creature of the minister, they set up Pratapsinhji on his ancestral *gadi*.

In the year 1803, which has become glorious in the annals of British India by the crushing defeat inflicted upon Sindhia, Broach and the other possessions of that Maratha chief in Gujarat were all conquered by the British arms. It was then that the chiefs of Lunawara first came into contact with the British Government, which was fast rising to be the Paramount Power in India. In return for the protection vouchsafed by the British, the State promised to pay an annual tribute to them. The treaty, however, remained a dead letter, owing to the policy of non-intervention, adopted by the next Governor-General, Lord Cornwallis. In 1812, the tribute to be paid by Lunawara to His Highness the Gaekwad was fixed at the amount of 6,001 rupees per annum, through the intercession of the British Political Officer. Four years later, in 1816, the Nawab of Balasinor sent a detachment of horse, under the command of Patel Bhagwandas, against Lunawara; the city was sacked and plundered by them. In 1817, Bapu Raghunath was despatched by the Puar Prince of Dhar against the town of Lunawara, which he stormed and retained in his own possession for twenty-seven days. The evacuation of the town by the Marathas had to be finally purchased at a cost of 40,000 rupees, paid to Bapu Raghunath. A few days after the State was visited by still more reverses of fortune. Sardar Mohansinh, a leader of Holkar's army, Patankar, the Suba of Sindhia's dominions in the Panch Mahals, Arjunsinh, the Thakore of Gad and a Sardar from Banswara, all succeeded in levying tribute from the State. Even the village of Virpur, the ancient seat of government in the State, was at this time occupied by a body of troops from Balasinor.

The death of Pratapsinhji was a signal for a contest between his two sons, Shivsindhji and Fattehsindhji, for the throne. Shivsindhji was senior by a few months, but his claims were overthrown by Fattehsindhji, who usurped the *gadi*.

In 1819, a new treaty was effected between Maharaja Sindhia and Fattehsindhji, by which the Raja of Lunawara agreed to pay 12,001 rupees every year to Sindhia as tribute, through the agency of the British Government. The old agreement of 1812 was now cancelled in 1820, and a new treaty of alliance was signed on the 3rd April of that year, by which the State was at last taken under the protection of the Paramount Power. This State was then placed under the jurisdiction of the Political Agent of Mahi Kantha, but five years later, in 1825, when the Rewa Kantha Agency was first established, Lunawara was transferred to this new division.

After the usurpation of Fattehsinhji, his injured brother, Shivsindhji, had turned an outlaw against the State, and was pressing his claims at the point of his sword. Before the British Political Officer, Sir John Malcolm, he urged his right of primogeniture and proved to the hilt that he had a more satisfactory title to the throne than his brother. Fattehsinhji was, however, in possession of the *gadi* at the time the British Government entered into an alliance with the State, and by the treaty then effected, his title to the throne had been acknowledged and the relations then subsisting had been fully ratified by them. The suit of Shivsindhji failed on account of the prior recognition of his brother's claims.

On 27th June 1849, Fattehsinhji departed this life, without leaving any heir to the throne. A few hours before his death, Dalpatsinhji, a prince related to the family, had been adopted by the dying Chief and placed upon the *gadi*. His succession to the throne was acquiesced in by all the leading courtiers, and was even ratified by the British Government on the 29th of August in that year. During the minority of Dalpatsinhji, the management of the State-affairs was entrusted to Rani Naniba, the mother of the late Raja, Fattehsinhji, a lady of a very acute intellect. This Dalpatsinhji was descended from Kumar Jagji, the second son of Raja Naharsinhji, fourteenth in descent from Bhimsinhji, the founder of the *Raj*.

Dalpatsinhji never attained the age of majority, for on the 4th of October 1851, his career was cut short by the cruel hand of death. Rani Naniba continued to hold the reins of government till another heir to the throne was adopted, but she, too, was snatched away by death on the 23rd of February, in the year following. Three weeks before her death, she had communicated to the Political Agent her desire to adopt Prince Dalelsinhji, a member of the same family, and set him at the head of the government, but her wishes remained unaccomplished, owing to her sudden demise. This Dalelsinhji was third in descent from Kumar Umedsinhji, the third son of Naharsinhji, fourteenth in descent from Bhimsinhji, the original founder of the *Raj*. Rani Naniba, at the time of recommending Prince Dalelsinhji, had also urged the incapacity and general incompetence of another claimant, Ajitsinhji, a nearer relation of the family, and had pressed the claims of her favourite, in preference to those of the nearer heir. In deference to the dying wishes of the Rani, her choice was approved of and the rights of Ajitsinhji were superseded. Dalelsinhji was installed on the *gadi*; but the State was not yet free from troubled waters. Four new claimants arose to contest his succession to the throne. Gemalbhai, Meherubhai,

Surajmal and Makansinh were all members of the same family, and they put forth their pretensions to the *gadi*, as more eligible than those of Dalelsinhji. All the four were descended from a younger brother of Wakhatsinhji I., fifteenth in descent from Bhimsinhji, the founder of the family. The first two, however, subsequently colluded with the ruler, and renounced their claims. Surajmal and Makansinh, on the contrary, kept up their agitation, and pressed their claims with unabated vigour. Both of them turned outlaws, and at the time of the great Mutiny, in 1857, Surajmal tried hard to deal a deadly blow to the fortunes of the State, and devastated the surrounding regions. Makansinh was not, at the time, by his side, but secretly helped him with men and money. A few days after, Surajmal died, and this brought the whole warfare to a close. Taking advantage of this turmoil and disorder, the Maliwad Kolis of Khanpur had risen *en-masse* in a revolt against the Chief of Lunawara; but Major Buckle, the Political Agent, at the time, suppressed this rising with great vigour and burning the village of Khanpur, reduced it to ashes. The Kolis, who were the ringleaders, were all captured and one of them was blown up at the mouth of the cannon.

On the 19th June 1867, died Maharana Dalelsinhji, without leaving any heir to succeed him to the *gadi*. One day prior to his death, he had, however, expressed his desire to take in adoption a young prince, Wakhatsinhji, the son of Ajitsinhji. This Ajitsinhji was the same injured courtier, who had been passed over in favour of Dalelsinhji, at the time of the adoption by Rani Naniba subsequent to the death of Dalpatsinhji; and he was the grand-son of Dalpatsinhji, second son of Wakhatsinhji I., fifteenth in descent from Bhimsinhji, the founder of the *Raj*. On the death of Maharana Dalelsinhji, his widow, Motikunwarba, obtained from the British Government, permission to adopt an heir, on payment of a royalty of the amount of one year's land-revenues of the State to the Sovereign Power. Prince Wakhatsinhji II. was, in consequence, adopted and installed on the throne.

At the time of his accession, the Maharana was only seven years old; the sole administration of the State was, in consequence, retained by the British Government in their own hands.

In 1869, the villages of Sanseli and Dholkankara were transferred to the Rewa Kantha Agency, on account of the settlement of a dispute, in

favour of the State, regarding their possession, between Lunawara and Dungarpur in the Mewad Agency.

Maharana Wakhatsinhji, who rules over Lunawara at the present day, was first sent to the Ahmedabad Talukdari School, and was thence transferred to the Rajkumar College at Rajkot, where he finished his course of education. The Maharana has received liberal training and has acquired sufficient mastery over the English and the Vernacular languages. In the month of August 1880, he attained the age of majority, and being found fully qualified to conduct the administration, the reins of government were entrusted to him. Maharana Wakhatsinhji has been wedded to Svarup-kunwarba, the daughter of the chief of Khandhu, who is a relative of the Raja of Banswara. The marriage has been blessed with three children, two princes and a daughter. Prince Ranjitsinhji is the name of the heir-apparent.

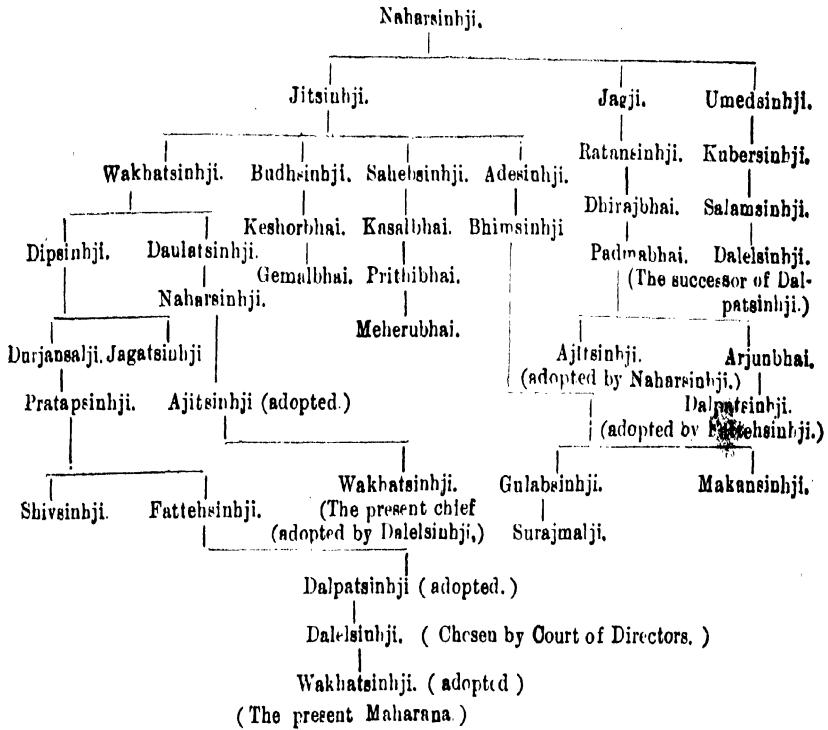
Maharana Wakhatsinhji was created a K. C. I. E. in 1889, and received the *sanad* of adoption in 1890.

The Maharanas of Lunawara have power to try their own subjects for capital offences, and are entitled to a salute of 9 guns.



Genealogical tree.

Bhimsinh, Gangdas, Udo Rano Raghavranasinh, Malo Rano, Vanvirji, Akherajji, Kumbho Rano, Jitsinhji, Triloksinhji, Dayaldasji, Chandrasinhji, Virsinhji and.—



Residence.—Lunawara, Rewa Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

NAGODE.

Area.—450. sq. miles. Population.—84,083.

Revenue.—1,50,000 rupees

The rulers of Nagode are Rajputs of the Poorihar race. History throws no light as to the person who founded this *Raj*; but it is believed that before Chhatra Sal subjugated the whole province of Bundelkhand, the ancestors of Lal Sheoraj held sway over this land. Neither the Bundela Rajputs under Chhatra Sal and his descendants, nor the army of Ali Bahadur could succeed against this State, which continued to be held by its ancient rulers. The State first came into contact with the British Government in 1809, when a mutual offensive and defensive alliance was signed between the two powers. Nagode was at this time governed by Lal Sheoraj, who was granted a *sanad* by the British, acknowledging his title to the throne. He expired in 1818, and was succeeded on the throne by Balbhadra Singh, the heir-apparent. The new Raja had an evil nature, and wickedly caused the murder of his own brother, in 1831. The fratricide was deposed by the British Government and banished from his dominions. After him, his son, Raghubind Singh, ascended the throne. He was a minor at the time, and the British Government had consequently to take up the administration of the State into their own hands. In 1838, the Chief came of age, and was solely entrusted with the reins of government. His independent rule was, however, unsuccessful, and in a short time he incurred large debts and plunged the whole State into heavy liabilities. In 1844, therefore, the British again resumed the management of the State at the earnest request of the Chief. In 1857, when the Indian peninsula was distracted from one end to the other by the breaking out of the great Mutiny, the Raja of Nagode loyally adhered to the British, whom he rendered valuable assistance. In recognition of this merit, the British Government granted him several territories, which had been confiscated from other refractory chiefs, and also conferred upon him and his heirs the *sanad* of adoption. Subsequently the Raja's mode of administering the State won the approval of the British, who, in 1865, restored the supreme control over the State-affairs to the Chief of Nagode. Raghubind Singh expired in 1874, and his eldest son, Jadhu Bhind Singh, ascended the *gadi*, in that very year. He is the present ruling Chief of Nagode.

Raja Jadhu Bhind Singh attended the Imperial Assemblage, held at Delhi, on the 1st January 1877, where he was honoured with the grant of

NAGODE.

(823)

a salute of 9 guns, as a hereditary distinction. He possesses inferior judicial powers in the State.

Genealogical tree.

Lal Sheoraj.

|
Balbhadra Sinh.

|
Raghubind Sinh.

|
Jadhu Bhind Sinh.

(The present Chief.)

Residence.—Unchera, Bundelkhand; Central India.



SAWANTWARI.

Area.—926 sq. miles. Population.—1,92,948.

Revenue.—4,20,000 rupees.

Sawantwari is bounded on the north by the Ratnagiri district ; on the east, by the State of Kolhapur and the Belgaum district ; on the south, by the Portuguese district of Goa ; and on the west, by the Arabian Sea.

It appears from the ancient history of the Deccan that the Chalukyas ruled at Sawantwari from the 6th to the 8th century of the Christian era. They were displaced by the Yadavas, who ruled there in the tenth century. The Chalukyas again appear to have reconquered it and reigned there in the 13th century. In the latter part of the 14th century *i. e.* in 1391, Sawantwari was held by a chief, owing allegiance to the powerful king of Vijayanagar. In the middle of the 15th century, the rulers of the Brahmani dynasty held their sway over it, but at the end of that century it ranked among the feudatory States of Bijapur, in 1554. One, Mang Sawant, of the Bhonsle family rebelled against the Bijapur authority and defeated a Mahomedan army sent to subdue him at Hodwara, a village about 9 miles from Sawantwari. This Mang Sawant remained independent of the Bijapur government all his life, but after his death, his successors acknowledged the suzerainty of the Mussalman kings of Bijapur. Khem Sawant I. was the founder of the principality of Sawantwari. He was a Maratha, born of the Bhonsle family. It was he, who first set up an independent *gadi* at Sawantwari. He commenced his career as a mere retainer in the service of the Mahomedan Shah of Bijapur, but subsequently rose to the position of a share-holder in the estate of Wari. His rule extended over a period of 13 years, from 1627 to 1640. He was after his death succeeded by his son Som Sawant, who died after reigning for eighteen months. He was next followed by his brother, Lakham Sawant, on the *gadi*. He joined the standard of the famous Shivaji, when he was in the heyday of his power. The first Maratha sovereign conferred upon him some portion of the Konkan district with the title of Sir Desai. In the declining days of Shivaji, he was deserted by the Sawant Chief, who went over to the side of the Bijapur kings. In 1662, Shivaji attacked Wari and compelled the Sawants to seek protection under his sway. Lakham Sawant died in 1665, and was succeeded by his brother, Phond Sawant I. He died after reigning for 10 years, and was succeeded by his son, Khem Sawant II. In 1707, Shahu Raja, the grand-son of Shivaji, conferred upon Khem Sawant II. a

sanad whereby the unfettered possession of all his territories was secured to him. He also obtained the moiety of the proceeds of the district of Salsai. Khem Sawant II., dying in 1709, was succeeded by his nephew, Phond Sawant II. The English for the first time entered into an alliance with the Chief of Wari in 1730. The league was formed with a view to put a stop to the constant inroads of Kanoji Angria, the pirate chief of Kolaba. The principal condition of this alliance was that out of the conquered territories in Kolaba, the English should retain in their possession only the islands of Gheria and Kaneri, while the rest should be incorporated with the dominions of the Sir Desai of Sawantwari. Phond Sawant II. died in 1737, and was succeeded by his grand-son, Ramechandra Sawant. After reigning for 18 years, he entrusted the government to his younger son, Khem Sawant III., who figured prominently in the annals of Sawantwari.

Khem Sawant III. had married the daughter of Jayaji Rao Sindhia. He was honored by the Emperor of Delhi with the title of *Raje Bahadur*. In the beginning of his career, he was forced to wage a deadly war against the neighbouring State of Kolhapur. The principal cause which led to this friction was the throwing up by the Sawant chiefs of all allegiance which they hitherto owned to the central authority at Kolhapur. The more powerful Chief of Kolhapur stormed several of the fortresses in the territory of Sawantwari, but they were subsequently recaptured by the Sir Desai of Wari, mainly through the support of Sindhia. The greater portion of the subjects of Wari had been carrying on piracy in the surrounding seas, and often inflicted heavy losses on the English and the Portuguese traders. The Sawant chiefs always espoused the cause of their subjects, which brought them into conflict with these powerful foreigners. A British convoy was despatched from Bombay under Major Gordon and Captain Watson in 1765, to put a stop to these piratic excursions. Khem Sawant, however, sought for peace and a treaty was concluded by which the whole territory, extending from the sea to the Sahyadri range, and lying between the rivers Karli and Salsi, together with a *lakh* of rupees in hard cash, were ceded to the English. These stipulations were soon violated and the hostilities were renewed, terminating in the conclusion of a fresh treaty. Khem Sawant was by this compelled to part with an additional sum of a *lakh* of rupees. The Chief, however, was not able to spare such a large sum, as 2 *lakhs* of rupees at one single stroke, and in consideration of that sum he ceded to the English the district of Vengurla. It was farmed by the British Government to one Vithoji Komotim. In 1780 Khem Sawant expelled

this Vithoji from Vengurla, which was invaded and reduced to submission. He also encroached upon some property belonging to the British settlers. This victory of Khem Sawant stimulated piracy and free-bootery, which continued for the next 32 years. At the time of Khem Sawant's death in 1803, the whole territory was infested by bands of lawless marauders, who carried on their raids with impunity. He reigned for 48 years and died in 1803, leaving behind him four widows. He had by his third wife, Devibai, a son and heir, named Ramchandra Sawant II., but during his minority the senior widow, Lakshmibai, was appointed Queen-Regent. During her reign the Raja of Kolhapur invaded her territories and captured the citadel of Sawantwari. At this critical juncture Lakshmibai besought the assistance of Vishwas Rao Ghatge and Apa Desai, the protege of the Peshwa and of Sindhia respectively. Apa Desai after consulting with the Peshwa flew to the succour of the distressed lady and raising the siege of Sawantwari, carried his arms in the very heart of the enemy's country. The Desai with the object of establishing his sway at the Court of Wari murdered, in 1807, the young prince and heir to the throne at the instigation and connivance of Lakshmibai and Phond Sawant III. Apa Saheb could not actually reap the benefit he had anticipated from this inhuman deed. His army had been considerably thinned in number and taking advantage of that circumstance, Phond Sawant III. drove him out of the domains of Wari and himself assumed the regal authority.

Lakshmibai died shortly after, and Durgabai, the next senior widow of Khem Sawant III., now claimed to be appointed the sole Regent of the State. Phond Sawant III. strongly opposed her pretensions and clung fast to the powers already arrogated by him. In 1812 the English again marched upon Sawantwari for the purpose of rooting out piracy in the surrounding seas. The Sawant, without offering them the slightest resistance, sought for peace. He had to cede to the English the fort of Vengurla and the outlying stronghold of Gunaramo Tembe. These acquisitions added considerably to the facilities of the English merchants, trading in those regions.

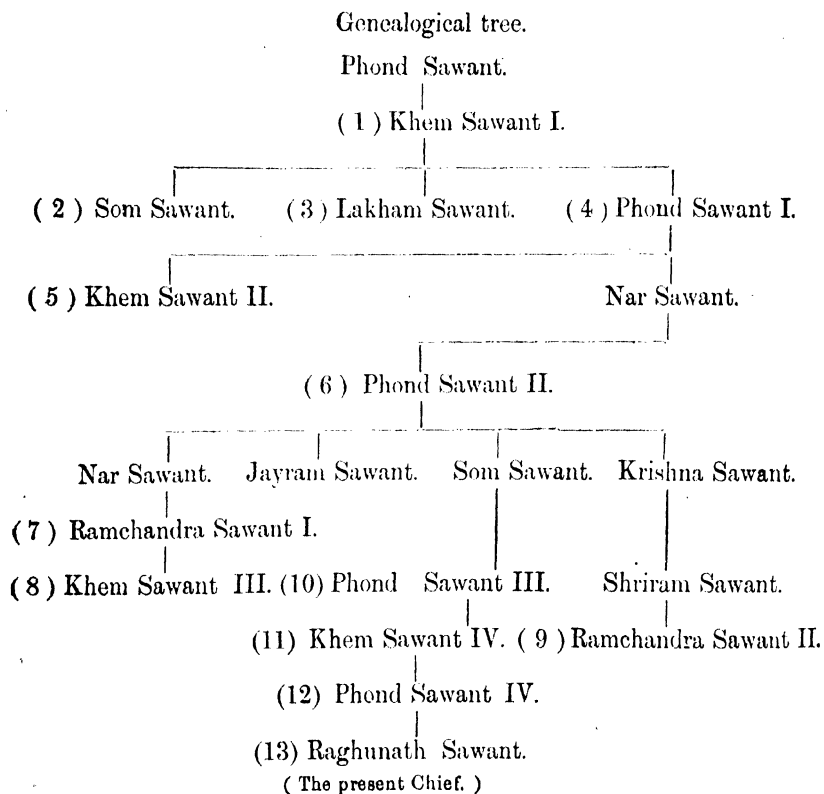
Phond Sawant III. died in 1812, leaving behind him a son, Khem Sawant IV., who was then a mere boy. During his minority the administration was carried on by the Queen-Regent, Durgabai, the second widow of the late Sawant. This lady was wise and brave. She invaded the territories of Kolhapur and besieged two of its hill-forts. The English remonstrated with her to abandon the siege, but to no purpose. They thereupon invaded her realms and captured two of her districts. They even made preparations

to march upon Sawantwari. At last a peace was concluded in February 1819; by the terms of the treaty, the English, on the one hand, undertook to protect the interests of Sawantwari, while the Sawant Chief, on his part, agreed to own the supremacy of the British power. It was also arranged to cede to the Chief of Sawantwari the vast sea-coast district, extending from the river Karli to the very limits of the Portuguese territory, and to place a British contingent at Sawantwari.

The reigning Chief accorded his approval to these stipulations and the rich tract of land, yielding an annual income of 30,000 rupees was restored to him the very next year. Durgabai had expired before the conclusion of the above-mentioned treaty and the government of Sawantwari was after her death successively carried on by Savitribai, the widow of Phond Sawant III., and Narabdabai. In 1822 Khem Sawant IV. assumed the reins of government in his own hands. He, however, proved a weak ruler and on account of his incapacity to put down a general revolt that had broken out in the State, the English were obliged to run to his rescue in 1830-32. A fresh treaty was signed between him and the English in 1832. The Chief consented to employ as his Diwans only those men, who were nominated by the British Government; he also bound himself not to remove them without the previous sanction of the English. He also agreed to carry on the government in consultation with these British nominees and to pay the expenses of the British troops, whenever brought into requisition. The Sawant, however, did not abide by these terms, whereupon the English assumed the sole management of the State in 1838, and restored peace and tranquillity throughout the province. Phond Sawant, otherwise known as Anna Saheb, the son of Khem Sawant IV., and his associates assumed a defiant attitude towards the English, but they were soon vanquished. During the Mutiny of 1857, Khem Sawant IV. and his son, though deprived of all power in the State, rendered signal service to the British arms.

Khem Sawant IV. died in 1867 and his son, Phond Sawant IV., popularly known as Anna Saheb, was placed on the *gadi* by the British Government. He was a confirmed opium-eater and died in the month of March 1869. He was succeeded by his son, Raghunath Sawant, the present Sir Desai of Sawantwari. Owing to his misconduct and incapacity the State has yet not been restored to him and the administration of the State is still under British management.

The Chief has a *sanad* allowing adoption and receives a salute of 9 guns.



Residence.—Sawantwari, Ratnagiri District; Bombay Presidency.



SUNTH.

Area.—394 sq. miles. Population.—74,268.

Revenue.—1,17,700 rupees.

This State is situated to the north-east of Rewa Kantha and is bounded on the north by the small State of Kadana and the dominions of Banswara and Dungarpur in Mewad. On the east is situated the sub-division of Jhalod in the Panch Mahals. On the south it touches the small State of Sanjeli and the sub-division of Godhra, while on the west it is bounded by Lunawara.

The Chiefs of Sunth are Rajputs of the Puwar or Parmar race and are descended from the Mahipavat branch. They claim their lineal descent from celebrated kings of yore, like Raja Bhoj of Dhar and Vikram of Ujjain. In the 11th century a Parmar chief, of the name of Jalamsinhji, migrated from that ancient city of splendour, Chandravati, situated at the foot of Mount Abu, and took up his abode in the north-east of Gujarat. There he founded a city, which was named after him Jhalod, and made it the seat of his government. After him the *gadi* of Jhalod was occupied in succession by Jhajsinhji, Bikamsinhji, Udesinhji, Pratapsinhji and Jalamsinhji II. The task of resisting the invasions of the adventurous Mahomedans devolved upon the last-named chief, who manfully struggled to stem the torrent of their vigorous onslaught, but was at last killed in his brave attempt (1247). Prince Sant, a son of Jalamsinhji, and Limdevji, his brother, were the only two of the royal family, who survived this struggle. They abandoned Jhalod and proceeding towards the west, came up to the habitations of the Bhils, where they hid themselves amidst the wilds and mountain defiles. There they spent several years in concealment, till at last, in 1255, they ventured to come out of their retreat and Sant founded a village, named after him Sunth, on the ancient site of a small Bhil hamlet, of the name of Brahmपुरi. Here he set up a small kingdom for himself by depriving the surrounding Bhils of their possessions, and made Sunth the capital of his dominions. His uncle, Limdevji, proceeded to the north of Sunth and founded the small *Raj* of Kadana in the hilly regions to the north of the Mahi.

Sant was succeeded on the *gadi* by his descendants, Navghan, Napaji, Prithisinhji I., Suraji and Jesinhji, in due course of time. Jesinhji had three sons, Akherajji, Gajsinhji and Kumbho, who all ascended the *gadi* in succession. It was in the time of Kumbho Rano that the

State was invaded by the Shah of Gujarat, Ahmud Shah I., who ruled over Ahmedabad from 1411 to 1443. The Raja was vanquished and it was from that day that the Shahs levied tribute from the State.

The *gadi* of Sunth was next occupied by Ramsinhji, Rayamalji and Mandlik. The last named Chief held the reins of government for 29 years, from 1536 to 1565. He was succeeded by his son, Surajmalji. At the time of his death he left two sons, Ratansinhji and Waghsinhji. Ratan-sinhji I. ascended the *gadi* on the death of his father. He left no issue behind him. Prithisinhji, a son of the latter, was, therefore, installed on the *gadi*, rendered vacant by the death of his uncle.

The death of Prithisinhji II. called his son, Sabalsinhji, to the throne, and he reigned till 1635. Upon his death, Gajsinhji became the next ruler. He was in his turn succeeded by his son, Mahvsinhji, who was at the head of the State till 1704. After him came Prithisinhji III., who was the ruler of the State till 1735, and after his death, the succession to the throne passed into the hands of Ratansinhji II., who ruled till 1753.

When Ratansinhji died, he left behind him four sons and a daughter. The Princess had been married to the chief of Banswara, who sent a deputation of his courtiers to Sunth to console the ruling family in their sad bereavement, on the 12th day after Ratansinhji's death. The heir to the throne was quite an infant, and turning this opportunity to their advantage, the Banswara Sardars got three young princes murdered and seized the *gadi* of Sunth from its helpless defenders, who were all taken by surprise. The fourth prince, Badansinhji, who alone escaped the cruel fate of his brothers, was carried away in safety by the Kolis of Malwan, who were generally known by the name of the Khants. These loyal Khants were highly incensed at this violent outrage committed upon their Chief by the aggression of Banswara, and vowing dire vengeance, they kept the young prince concealed in their hamlet for some time. Subsequently they, all of a sudden, attacked Sunth and dispersed the troops of Banswara, which they succeeded in expelling from the capital. The young Prince Badansinhji was installed on the *gadi* of his father by the devoted Kolis, who continued to defend the State, till the Chief attained his years of discretion. In his youth, Badansinhji turned out a very brave prince; and he wreaked his vengeance upon Banswara by subduing several dominions of that State, with the help of the Thakore of Gad, a relative of the chief of Banswara.

Badansinhji expired in 1774, and was succeeded by his son, Shivsindhji. It was during the *regime* of this Chief that, in 1803, the State first entered into a treaty of alliance with the British Government, through a commander of their forces, Colonel Murray. The treaty of mutual offence and defence was, however, never acted upon, and was subsequently cancelled, owing to the non-intervention policy, adopted by the new Governor-General, Lord Cornwallis, with regard to Rajput States.

When Shivsindhji died he had two sons, Kesharisinhji and Kalyansinhji, of whom the senior, Kesharisinhji, ascended the *gadi*. In the year 1819 he died, leaving an infant heir, Gajsindhji, to the throne. The infant, however, died shortly after, and his uncle, Kalyansinhji, was then called to the throne.

In the year of Kalyansinhji's accession to the *gadi*, troops of Sindhia's horse, which had set out on a plundering expedition, were let loose, like locusts, on the dominions of Sunth. But for the intervention of the British under Sir John Malcolm, the entire State would have been without doubt crushed to atoms or swallowed up by these swamps of greedy vulture-like marauders. The brave Malcolm, however, speedily came to its relief and compelled Sindhia to recall his army. It was at this time, in 1819, that the Raja of Sunth entered into an agreement with Maharaja Sindhia, by which he promised to pay an annual tribute of 7,000 rupees *Shiyashai*. This agreement was effected through the intercession of the British Government, and from that day Sunth acknowledged their suzerainty and claimed their protection. In the year 1825, when a Political Agency was established at Rewa Kantha, Sunth was included in the jurisdiction of the Agent.

Kalyansinhji expired in 1835. His son, Bhawanisinhji, who ascended the *gadi*, was an infant, aged three years at the time. During his minority, therefore, the reins of government were held by his mother, the Dowager-Queen, Gulabkunwarba. The Regent-mother was of a little irritable temperament, and by her high-handed demeanour oppressed her poor subjects. In 1854, therefore, before Prince Bhawanisinhji attained years of discretion, the Khant sect of the Kolis rose up in revolt and disturbed the province from one end to the other. These Khants were the same loyal and devoted Kolis, who, in years gone by, had helped Prince Badansinhji, grand-father of Kalyansinhji, the father of Bhawanisinhji, to the throne. They now led bands of dacoits against Sunth and plundered the

defenceless ryots. The whole territory was devastated, and the State suffered great loss from their depredations. They extended their plundering arms even over some dominions of Lunawara and Kadana. The government of Raja Bhawanisinhji could not effectually suppress this disturbance and he had eventually to ask for the help of the British. The Political Agent proceeded to Sunth and forced these rebels to accept terms of peace. Thereby they bound themselves to orderly and peaceable behaviour and also to recompense Sunth for the loss occasioned to it by their pillage. At this period a rising of the Bhils, residing in small hamlets on the north-east of Sunth, broke out against the Thakore of Gad. The frontier villages of Sunth were in danger of being plundered by these rebels, and with a view to prevent their advance in that quarter, Bhawanisinhji raised a strong fortress on his north-east frontier, which he named Fatehgarh or the "fort of victory." These efforts for the preservation of peace were, however, of no avail against the plundering excursions of those lawless and desperate bands. The British Government had at last to interfere, and station several of their mounted guards with a *Thundar* at the village of Bhanashimal, on the north-east of Sunth. This possession, in the very heart of the Bhil population, was renounced by the British only in very recent years.

In the year 1819, the amount of tribute payable by the State to Sindhia had been fixed at 7,000 rupees per year. In 1860, however, the district of the Panch Mahals was exchanged by Maharaja Sindhia for some other territory from the British Government, and Sunth from that day came under the direct sway and protection of the British as the Suzerain power and the tribute of 7,000 rupees is annually paid to them.

In the year 1865, a boundary dispute broke out between Maharana Dalelsinhji of Lunawara and Raja Bhawanisinhji of Sunth. It was subsequently discovered that Bhawanisinhji was really to blame for this unseemly quarrel, and he received a sharp admonition from the Paramount Power. In 1870, Bhawanisinhji went to Bombay to grace the occasion of the visit of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, the second son of Her Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. The Raja was much pleased at the sight of the magnificent buildings and the clean wide roads of that wealthy city and intended to attempt some of these elegant reforms on a small scale in his own dominions. His career was, however, cut short by the cruel hand of death, and he expired after a short illness at the youth-

ful age of forty. The death of Raja Bhawanisinhji, left the *gadi* without any heir. Up to his time there was no break in the chain of lineal succession, down from the original founder of the *Raj*. They had now to seek for a successor to the throne from another family. The rulers of Sunth had not been accorded any *sanad*, authorising them to adopt an heir, by the British Government. On this occasion, however, the requisite authority was secured by the widow of the late Chief, on payment of a royalty of the amount of one year's land revenue. The choice for adoption fell upon a young child of twelve years, of the name of Pratapsinhji, belonging to a remotely connected family, whose relationship was more than fourteen degrees removed from the last ruler, and he was accordingly brought up from his obscure residence at Sangawada and installed upon the throne.

At the time of his adoption the Raja was only twelve years old and the administration of the State was in consequence retained by the British Government in their own hands, pending the Raja's attaining the age of majority. He was sent for his education to the Rajkumar College at Rajkot. In the year 1879, the Raja entered into an alliance of marriage with Dariavkunwarba, a daughter of the chief of Bambora in Mewad. The Raja completed his Collegiate education and acquired a thorough proficiency in the English and Vernacular languages. Next year, in 1880, he attained the age of twenty and was deemed fit to be entrusted with the reins of government. The Political Agent repaired to Sunth and handed over the sole charge of the State to Raja Pratapsinhji. He received a *sanad*, conferring on him the right of adoption in 1890.

Raja Pratapsinhji promised to be a very capable ruler, but this intelligent Chief was cut off by the cruel hand of death, in the prime of his life and in the midst of a benevolent career of public usefulness. On the 10th of January 1896, this youthful Chief breathed his last, after a short illness, at Godhra. He left no male issue to inherit the throne. The State is now under the management of the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha. No successor has yet been determined, though the Political Agent has been carrying on due investigation for the purpose.

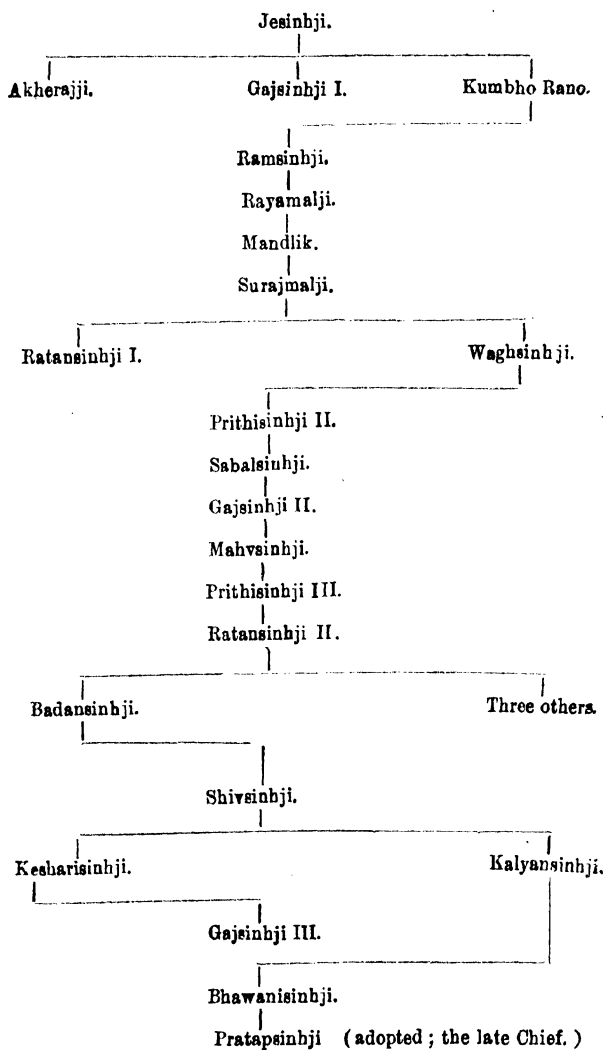
The Rajas of Sunth enjoy inferior criminal powers and are entitled to a salute of 9 guns.



THE HIND RAJASTHAN.

Genealogical tree.

Sant, Navghan, Napaji, Prithisinhji I., Suraji and.—



Residence.—Sunth, Rewa Kantha Agency ; Bomby Presidency.

BANSDA.

Area.—215 sq. miles. Population.—41,373.

Revenue.—3,52,728 rupees.

The State of Bansda is bounded on the north by the river Ambika and the Anaval *paragna* of the Navsari Division in the Baroda territories ; on the east, by the Vyara district of the Gaekwad and the district of Dang in Khandesh ; on the south, by the territories of the Dharampur *Raj* and a portion of the Nasik *Zillah* ; and on the west, by the Chikhli *paragna* and a part of the Dharampur State.

Rajput rulers of the Solanki dynasty are ruling at Bansda. It is not exactly known which was the governing class formerly, but tradition represents that Bhil chiefs were once ruling over the State.

A Solanki, named Bhuvanaditya, flourished at Kanauj ; he had two sons, Raj and Bij, who went to Somnath ; at the time of their arrival there, Samatsinhji, of the Chavada house, was reigning at Anhilwad Patan. The hand of Raj was accepted in marriage by Liladevi, the sister of the Chavada Prince. The issue of the union was Mulraj, a prince, though intelligent and brave, yet avaricious and wicked. His passion for royalty led him to a dastardly act ; he took the life of his uncle to usurp his throne. According to the chronicles of the bards, a representative of this line, Dhavaldev Solanki, made Dholka his residence in 1104, and thence he removed to Kalarigarh in 1134. For several generations, his descendants enjoyed their *Raj*. Kalarigarh is situated in the Palanpur Agency, to the south of the Kankrej district, at a distance of three miles from Bahucharaji, a renowned place of pilgrimage.

In the opening year of the fifteenth century, Jetmalji, Sarangji and Vajerajji, the lineal representatives of Dhavaldev, who were ruling at Kalarigarh, were attacked by the troops of Ahmud Shah I., Sultan of Ahmedabad. The Solankis fiercely disputed the possession of the fortress, which the Mahomedans at last succeeded in reducing, at the cost of 1,300 troopers and 17 elephants. Some of the best Solanki blood was spilt in the defence of their kingdom. The victory of the Mahomedans compelled them to seek a new home elsewhere ; some found it in Sagwada, some in Bansda, and the rest in other less known localities.

In the vicinity of Bansda, the remains of a fallen city, with its ancient reservoirs, are to be seen even to this day ; which fact goes to establish

that there on the very site must have stood some flourishing city with its busy traffic and splendid palaces. The end of the fifteenth century may be taken as the period of the foundation of the Solanki rule at Bansda. The founder appears to be one Muldevji, for no other name is recorded prior to him. His successors were Khandhaldevji, Baldevji, Karandevji, Udayasinhji, Molkaranji and Udayasinhji II ; the last of these died in 1701. Virsinhji, who was the next to occupy the throne, died in 1716, after a rule of fifteen years. Rayabhanji died in 1739, after holding the crown for twenty three years. He had two Kunvars, Gulabsinhji and Jorawarsinhji, by two different wives, both of whom urged their claims to the entire kingdom before Damaji Gaekwad on behalf of their respective Kunvars. The Gaekwad divided the kingdom into two parts, assigning one to each. Bansda fell to Gulabsinhji's share, and Bisanpur,* to that of Jorawarsinhji.

Gulabsinhji died without any issue in 1753. The State Minister placed Udayasinhji, a cousin of the deceased, on the *gadi*. Thereupon Jorawarsinhji represented at the Court of the Peshwa that he was better entitled to the succession by virtue of his nearer relationship with the last holder. At length the Peshwa referred the matter to an arbitration, and his claims were compromised by the cession of five villages.

Udayasinhji also died childless, in 1770. The succession again was disputed by two cousins of the late Raja Saheb, Kiratsinhji and Parbatsinhji, both of whom referred their case to the Peshwa's Court. The claims of Kiratsinhji found support with the Peshwa's Minister and consequently they were preferred.

After ten years of peaceful rule, Kiratsinhji died. As he left no son to inherit his vast dominions, the two brothers, Virsinhji and Naharsinhji, the descendants in the line of Jorawarsinhji of Bisanpur, quarrelled over the succession. Virsinhji got the Peshwa's decision in his favour by spending fifty thousand rupees at his Court, which he had borrowed from the chief of Mandvi. Thus Virsinhji became the ruler of Bansda.† He died in

* At present Bisanpur forms a part of the Gaekwad's territory. In 1750 a part of it was transferred to the Peshwa, who reconveyed it to Damaji Gaekwad. In 1760 the same portion was again taken over by the Peshwa, who again placed it in the Gaekwad's possession in 1762. The rest of Bisanpur was seized by the Gaekwad in 1763 and in spite of the opposition of Bansda and the direction of the Peshwa to the contrary, it continues to be in the Gaekwad's territory.

† The tradition is that the ancient capital of the *Raj* was Navanagar, at present a small village in the State, and the Court was removed from it by Maharaja Virsinhji. In the village old wells and old foundations of walls still exist, as also a strong bridge near the

1789. Thereupon Naharsinhji again tried to secure the throne for himself; but not being on amicable terms with Dayaram, the Minister at the Bansda Court, it was represented at the Peshwa's Court that the queen of the late Raja was pregnant and that Naharsinhji had already surrendered his right of succession. It was then resolved by the government of the Peshwa that till the accouchement of the queen of the deceased Raja Saheb, Naharsinhji should have nothing to do with the State. Greatly disappointed at this rebuff he again tried hard to secure the throne, making at the same time a *nazar* of 85,000 rupees. The offer of the *nazar* removed all the difficulties in his way, and he was confirmed on the *gadi*.

On the death of Naharsinhji, in 1793, his Kunvar, Rayasinhji, succeeded him. During his regime, the treaty of Bassein between the Peshwa and the English Government was signed on the 31st December 1802. By virtue of it, all the sovereign rights and claims of the Peshwa on this State passed to the British Government, and it marked the beginning of the State's relations with the British Government.

A distant cousin of Rayasinhji, named Udayasinhji, whom he had taken in adoption, ascended the throne in 1815. He died after a reign of fourteen years in 1829. When he died, one of his cousins, Hamirsinhji, a child of eighteen months was adopted by the widow of the deceased, with the sanction of the Government, but the State affairs continued to be administered by the widows. But when it was found that the affairs were grossly mismanaged, the Agent to His Excellency the Governor of Bombay, at Surat, stepped in, and appointed an officer to conduct the administration. When the Raja Saheb reached his majority, in 1852, he was entrusted with the sole and absolute jurisdiction over his kingdom.

Hamirsinhji died on the 16th June 1861. He had no heirs; so Maharaul Shri Gulabsinhji of Devan, who represented a branch of the family, was installed on the throne. It was somewhat remarkable that he was completely free from all defects, which a sudden change of fortune would indue into the spirits of those, who are favoured by it, making them proud, arrogant and supercilious; but, the simplicity and affableness, which he cultivated even after becoming the master of the dominions, are still praised by the people.

Gaumukh on the river. All this evidence confirms the belief that it must have been the ancient capital. At the time of the foundation of Bansda, the Maharaja built three temples, Vishweshwara Mahadev, Virbhadra Hanuman and Vijayadata Mata. They stand even now. The Maharaja was very bold and gallant. At the time of his settlement at Bansda, the Bhils were ravaging the country and molesting the people. They were vanquished by him and their turbulence stopped by striking terror into their hearts.

His capacity for government elicited many eulogies from the Supreme Government, who granted to his family the right of adoption, in accordance with Hindu Law and usage, without exacting any preliminary *nazar*.

During the reign of Maharaja Gulabsinhji, in 1873, an agreement was executed, whereby all transit duties throughout the State were required to be abolished and the Government bound itself to pay an annual sum of 8,698 rupees. It is deducted from the *chauth* tribute payable by the State, which leaves a balance of 153-8-0 rupees, to be paid by the State.

In 1876 Maharaja Gulabsinhji expired, leaving one Kunvar, Pratapsinhji, and two Kunvaris, Nand Kunvar Baiji and Dnyan Kunvar Baiji. In his last moments, he called his young prince, the queens, and all other relatives to his bed side, and made all the arrangements, which he desired for them, and recommended his infant Kunvar and the State to the kind notice of the British Government; he breathed his last in February 1876. Maharaja Shri Pratapsinhji, who was born on the 23rd November 1864, now ascended his father's *gadi* at the tender age of eleven. He is the present Chief of Bansda. He was sent to the Rajkumar College for the prosecution of his studies, and the State was placed under the British administration. After he had finished his education in the Gujarati and the English tongues and attained years of majority, the administration was removed and the State was entrusted to him on the 5th March 1885.

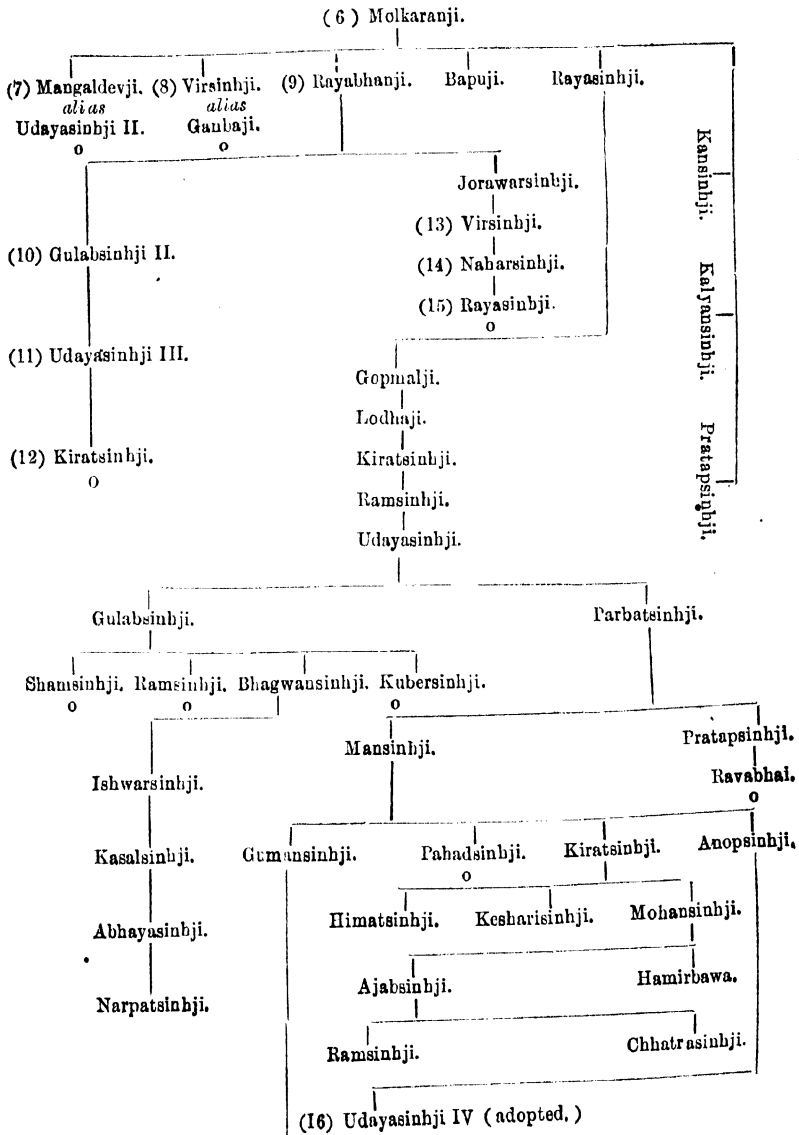
The State has also undertaken for a period of ten years to assimilate its system of Abkari Administration to that prevailing in the British territories. An agreement was accordingly arrived at in 1886, to be renewed with mutual consent.

Maharaja Pratapsinhji has four Ranis; one is the daughter of Narandevji, the late Raja Saheb of Dharampur; the second is the daughter of Rupdevji, the late Raja Saheb of Ali-Rajpur, in the Bhopawar Agency; she gave birth to a Kunvar, Indrasinhji, on the 16th February 1888; the third is the daughter of the chief of Sayla in the Kathiawad Agency, who also gave birth to two Kunvars, Pravinsinhji and Natvarsinhji, of whom the former is five years old, being born on the 26th February 1891, and the latter is twenty-two months old, being born on the 30th October 1894.

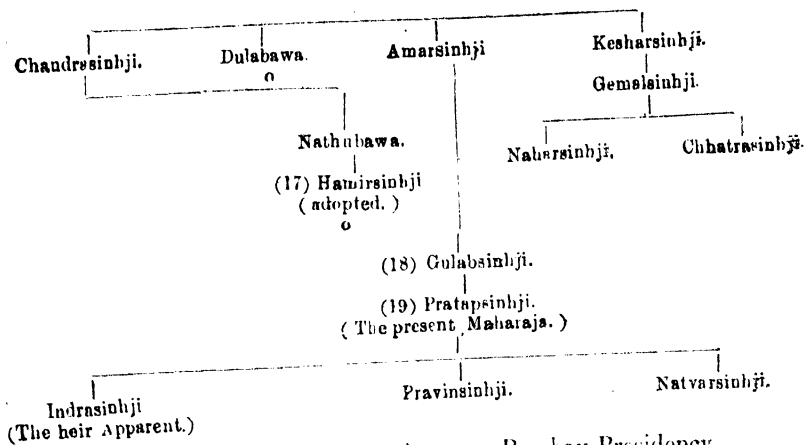
Maharaul Shri Pratapsinhji exercises second class jurisdiction *i. e.* has power to try for all offences, and receives a salute of 9 guns, as a hereditary distinction.

Genealogical tree.

(1) Muldevji, (2) Khandhaldevji, (3) Baldevji, (4) Karandevji,
(5) Udayasinhji I, and.—



THE HIND RAJASTHAN.



Residence. — Bansda. Surat Agency : Bombay Presidency.

BARAUNDHA OR PATHARKACHHAR.

Area.—238 sq. miles. Population.—18,599.

Revenue.—45,000 rupees.

The rulers of this State belong to an ancient family of the Rajvansi Rajput caste, tracing their descent from Gauri Chand, who died in 1549. It appears, the State was held by its rulers under a *sanad* granted by Hardi Sah, a Bundela chief. The British Government confirmed to Mohan Sinh all his possessions by a *sanad* in 1807. When he died in 1827, he left a will, whereby he bequeathed all his property to his nephew, Sarabjit Sinh. The Government recognized his succession, though two of his elder brothers were thereby excluded and no formal adoption had taken place.

The British Government bestowed on the State the right of adoption by a *sanad* in 1862. In the next year the State ceded certain lands for Railway purposes. Raja Sarabjit Sinh died in 1867, and was succeeded by his grand-son, Chhatrapal Sinh, the son of his predeceased son, Vishwanath Sinh. An attempt to secure the *gadi* for himself was made during the Raja's lifetime by his third son, Ramdayal, but it proved fruitless. Chhatrapal Sinh died in 1874, at the tender age of twenty-five. He was succeeded by his only surviving uncle, Raghubirdayal Sinh. The title of Raja Bahadur and a salute of nine guns, as a mark of personal distinction, were conferred on him at the Imperial Assemblage in 1877. The salute was made hereditary the next year.

Raja Raghubirdayal Sinh died in 1885, without leaving any male issue and without exercising the right of adoption. The Government of India selected one Thakur Prasad, a descendant of the old stock, and treated the recognition of his succession as a re-grant.

Nazaranas are leviable according to the usual rates from the State on the occasion of successions of all sorts.

The Chief has judicial inferior powers and is entitled to a salute of 9 guns.

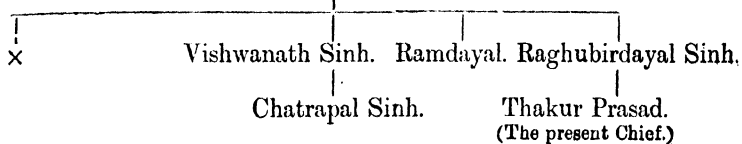


THE HIND RAJASTHAN.

Genealogical tree.

Mohan Sinh.

Sarabjit Sinh.



Residence.—Baraundha, Bundelkhand ; Central India.



DHARAMPUR.

Area.—794½ sq. miles. Population.—1,20,498.

Revenue.—2,68,081 rupees.

Dharampur is bounded on the north by the State of Bansda and the Chikhli sub-division of the Surat district ; on the east, by the Peint and Surgana States ; on the south by Peint, Daman and Thana ; and on the west, by the Balsad and Pardi sub-divisions of Surat.

The Rajas of Dharampur are Sisodiya Rajputs of the Solar race, being the lineal representatives of Raja Shri Ramchandra of Ayodhya (Oudh). Lava, the son of Ram, settled on the banks of the Ravi and founded his capital, which he called, after him, Lahore. The sixty-third in his descent, Kanaksen, came to Gujarat in 144 and founded Vadnagar. Vijayasen, his fourth descendant, was the founder of Valabhipur. No exact date can be assigned for its foundation, but it is said that Vijayasen introduced a new era in 319, making it the first year of the city of Valabhi. In our account of Mewad we have given the details of the down-fall of the Valabhi monarchy, and have traced at some length the connection of the rise of the Mewad monarchy with the fall of Valabhi. We have spoken about the foundation of Chitod by Bappa Raol, who dethroned his former masters, the Mori chiefs of the Parmar race.

The history of the period, subsequent to the assumption of those proud titles—the Sun of the Hindus &c.—by Bappa and up to the substitution, in the time of Rana Rahap, of the titles of Sisodiyas and Ranas for the old family names of Ghelotes and Raols, has been detailed at its proper place. The period with which we are immediately concerned is that which followed the death of Rahap in 1239. A prince of the family, by name Ramshah, marched at this period towards Gujarat and reaching Dharampur, tried to get some footing there. It is not certain whether Ramshah was one of the sons of Rahap, or of any of his immediate successors on the throne of Mewad ; but there is not the slightest doubt that this prince, Ramshah, belonged to the Mewad family. In the year 1201, when Rahap ascended the throne, he had assumed the new title of Sisodiya Rana in place of the one borne by his fore-fathers. This Rana Rahap had died in 1239 and twenty three years after, in 1262, we find in the annals of Dharampur that one Ramraja seized the throne of that State and commenced his rule with the high sounding title of a Sisodiya Rana. Looking to the small interval that elapsed between the death of

Rana Rahap of Mewad and the foundation of the Dharampur State in 1262 by **Ramraja**, we can, without much fear of error, conclude that this **Ramraja** must have been identical with Prince **Ramshah** of Mewad, who must have at this period left his patrimonial estate of Mewad, in search of greater fortune for himself and founded this new *Raj* in the south. The Prince was accompanied, in his migration to Gujarat, by his brother, who is said to have founded the State of Ali-Rajpur.

At the time of **Ramraja's** arrival in Gujarat, a Bhil chief, named **Nathorat**, belonging to the Thorat dynasty, held sway over the territory, which is now comprised in the Dharampur State. He was put to death by **Ramraja**, who, changing the ancient name of the State, **Mandvegan**, called it after him **Ramnagar**. He enjoyed in security what he had won by means of his dagger, for thirty-three years, and died in 1295. Of his successors, **Somshah** ruled till 1335, **Purandarshah** till 1360, **Dhramshah I.** till 1361, **Gopushah** till 1432, **Jagatshah** till 1470, **Naranshah I.** * till 1500, **Dharamshah II.** till 1531 and **Jagatshah II.** till 1566.

A curious tale is told how the cognomen of **Dev** began to be suffixed invariably to the names of each individual of the family, a custom, which still prevails. The Mahomedan Padshah of Gujarat seems to have been once displeased with **Jagatshah II.**; in order to obviate this calamity, he invoked his tutelary deity by exposing himself to the scorching heat of the Sun. That very moment the sky was overcast and the Sun was enveloped in darkness. No sooner was this phenomenon visible than the Padshah's displeasure was miraculously removed by some preter-natural agency. The triumph of his tutelary god was commemorated by changing his name **Jagatshah** into **Jayadev**; and his successors have honoured his memory by following his example.

Lakshmandevji succeeded his father on his death in 1566. In his time Gujarat was conquered by Emperor **Akbar**, in 1573, from **Muzaffar Shah II.** Three years after the conquest, **Raja Todar Mal**, who had exacted a

* In the fifteenth century of the Christian era, the mountain fastness of **Parnara**, together with the districts of **Ghambhirgarh**, **begva**, **Asarseta**, **Bahara**, **Udva**, **Balapur**, **Dharampuri** and **Nagar Haveli** and the castles, therein standing, were absorbed within the territory of the State. **Asarseta** was the seat of the **Darbar** till 1654, and **Nagar** and **Fatehpur** continued to be the capitals till 1765. With the exception of **Nagar Haveli** all the districts are said to have passed under Mughal sovereignty, being seized by the Mughals, owing to an unprovoked embuscade of the mountaineers on the Mughal army in its passage to the south. At present they belong to the British Government. **Nagar** and **Fatehpur**, being the capitals of the State, could not then be captured.

tribute from the Rao of Sirohi, was on his way to Surat; the meeting of the Emperor's financial minister and the Raja of Dharampur took place near Broach. The latter paid as his tribute 12,000 rupees in cash and four horses; in return for this, a *khilat* and a permission to keep in his service a small force of 1,500 horse were accorded to him; he was also further required by Todar Mal to assist, with 1,000 horse, the Mughal Viceroy of Gujarat on emergent occasions. The death of this prince took place in 1600, whereupon his son, Somdevji, ascended the throne. Old Ajij Koka was then the viceroy of Gujarat and his son, Jehangir Kuli Khan, was appointed his deputy.

Vazir Malik Ambar of Ahmednagar invaded Gujarat and plundered both Baroda and Surat in 1609, and in order to prevent the repetition of such an outrage, a military force of 25,000 horse was stationed at Ramnagar (to the south-east of the State) by Jehangir Kuli Khan, and all the chiefs of Gujarat had also to contribute towards the expenses of this defensive corps. Somdevji died in 1635, and was succeeded by Ramdevji. The court which his predecessors had held at Asarseta was removed by him in 1654 to Nagar Fatehpur. He assisted Shivaji, the founder of the Maratha greatness, in his sack of Surat, both in 1664 and 1670. On his death in 1680 Shehdevji came to the throne, and he, too, died in 1711, after a rule of 31 years. Ramdevji II. was then enthroned in 1727; the Marathas came into collision with the State, and they dispossessed the Raja of almost the whole of his dominions consisting of 72 villages, with the exception of the capitals Nagar and Fatehpur, and two other villages, situated in the Nagar Haveli district; also they levied their *chauth* on the State. It was like robbing Peter to pay Paul. These seventy-two villages were transferred to the Portuguese in compensation for the piracy which the Peshwa's men had committed on their vessels; they still are held by them and form part of the Daman territory. The right of levying the *chauth* was assigned to the English Government by virtue of the treaty of Bassein in 1802; in lieu of this claim the Dharampur State at the present day makes an annual payment of 9,000 rupees to the British Power. Dharamdevji succeeded his father in 1764. He invited the neighbouring population to reside in a new city, which he founded and named Dharampur, after his own name, where he removed his court in 1766, two years after his accession to the *gadi*. He survived but for eight years the foundation of his new capital. When he died, in 1774, he had none to inherit his large dominions. As the ancestors of the Rajas of this State and Ali-Rajpur belonged

to the same branch, the widowed queen brought over Gumansinhji, the second son of Raja Sabalsinhji of Ali-Rajpur, and placed him on the throne of Dharampur, with the title of Narandevji. He lived but three years and died in 1777, without any issue. A brother of his, Abhayasinhji, had again to be imported from Ali-Rajpur and enthroned as Somdevji. In his time the country was visited by a frightful famine, popularly remembered as the never to be forgotten '*Betalo*' (Samwat 1842) in 1785. A roving band of the starving and the famine-stricken forced their way into the heart of Dharampur, plundered the palace and destroyed it by fire. This year was one of heavy disaster to the State.

Rupdevji succeeded Somdevji in 1787. It was during his reign that the treaty of Bassein, dated 31st December 1802, was concluded between the Peshwa and the English Government, and it assigned in perpetuity all the claims of the Peshwa over the State to the English. In this manner the connection of the State with the British Government was brought about for the first time.

Raja Vijayadevji came to the throne on the death of Rupdevji in 1807. He was generous and simple in his nature but prodigal in his habits. He spent an incredible amount of wealth in charities to *Bhats*, *Churans*, Brahmins and such other beggars ; his style of living was splendid and extravagant. The inevitable result of it was that the State was burdened by a large debt. He used to reside generally either in Surat or Baroda. On one occasion the treasury contained not even a single rupee, when a Pathan Jamadar desired to be paid up all the arrears of his pay; being asked to wait, he was so much infuriated that he rushed to take the life of his prodigal master; but he was prevented by the Arabs, who seized him and shot him dead on the spot. The Raja was burdened by heavy debts till the end of his life, but during his last days, the Governor of Bombay intervened, with the object of giving relief to the dying Raja, by making some arrangement, by which the debt might be gradually paid off; what liabilities remained undischarged at the time of his death were liquidated by Narandevji. In 1820-21, His Excellency Mountstuart Elphinstone, the Governor of Bombay, in recognition of the independence of the State, presented the Raja with a medal and a *khilat*. Dharampur was the first to receive this sort of honour at the hands of the Paramount Power among all the Native States of Gujarat.

In 1857, Raja Vijayadevji breathed his last. Within three years, his successor, Ramdevji III., followed him to the grave. The issue of his marriage with the daughter of Gumansinhji of Chhota-Udepur was a son, born on the 3rd September 1840. Narandevji was the name of this prince who ascended the throne on the 26th January 1860, at the age of nineteen. After his accession he worked zealously for the good of the people. He reformed the law courts and abolished several of the oppressive taxes; he also put down the system of farming the revenues, which prevailed in the State and under which the farmers enriched themselves by grinding the poor and making them wretched, miserable and unhappy. New departments, Educational, Police, Medical and Municipal were opened. The system of assessment was introduced. In short he took a special interest in the welfare of his subjects. His munificence was also extended to literature.

A *sanad*, authorising the Raja to adopt heirs to the throne on failure of natural ones without paying *nazars* to the Sovereign Power, was granted to him in 1862 by the Government.

Raja Narandevji took for his wives the daughters of Chhasatia Sardar, Bhagubava of Dharampur, Vansadia Thakore of Nikora, the late Thakore Rayasinhji of Chaliar, in Rewa Kantha, and the Chavada Thakore of Manekpur. Baldevji is the Prince born of the Chhasatia princess and Prabhatdevji, of the Chhaliar princess; the Prince, who was the destined heir to the throne, Dharamdevji, was born of the Vansadia princess, but God willed otherwise and grim death claimed him as one of its youthful victims in 1879.

The Raja went to Bombay in 1875, at the time of the arrival of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, to pay his respects to the Royal guest. As a *memento* of the memorable occasion, His Royal Highness sent to the Raja a medal and a *khilat*, through the Agent to the Governor of Bombay at Surat. He was invited to be present at the grand Darbar held at Delhi, by His Excellency Lord Lytton, on the occasion of the assumption of the title of Empress of India, by Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, but he was, prevented by ill-health from attending the Darbar.

In 1885, the Raja of Dharampur entered into an extradition treaty with the British Government, which also provided for the surrender of criminals who may have committed an offence in Portuguese India and be

arrested within the boundaries of the State. Next year the State also agreed to an Abkari arrangement, which differed but little from the one which had been accepted by the Bansda State.

Raja Narandevji died on the 7th September 1891, and was succeeded by Prince Mohandevji. He is the present occupant of the ancient *gadi* of Dharampur. He has a son, named Vijayasinghji.

The Raja of Dharampur is entitled to a salute of 9 guns and exercises second class powers *i. e.* has powers to try his subjects alone.

Genealogical tree.

Ramraja *alias* Ramshah, Somshah, Purandarshah, Dharamshah, Gopushah, Jagatshah, Naranshah, Dharamshah II., Jagatshah, Lakshmandevji, Somdevji I., Ramdevji, Shehdevji, Ramdevji, Dharamdevji, Narandevji, Somdevji II., Rupdevji, Vijayadevji, Ramdevji and.—

Narandevji II.

Dharamdevji.
(died in 1879.)

Mohandevji.
(The present Chief.)

Haridevji. Baldevji. Prabhatdevji.

Vijayadevji.

(The Heir-Apparent.)

Residence.—Dharampur, Surat Agency? Bombay Presidency.



DHROL.

Area.—282. sq. miles. Population.—27,007.

Revenue.—1,50,000 rupees.

Dhrol is bounded on the north and west by Nawanagar; on the east, by Morbi and Wankaner; and on the south, by Gondal and Morbi.

The chieftdom of Dhrol was founded by Hardholji, the brother of Jam Raol, who was the founder of the Jadeja principality of Nawanagar. These two brothers were on hostile terms with their cousin, Jam Hamirji, who was reigning at Kutch. The bardic legend runs that they all entered into certain negotiations, and swore by the name of their tutelary goddess, *Ashapuri*, to strictly observe them. The wily Jam Raol and his brother, Hardholji, broke these terms and treacherously murdering Hamirji, took possession of his dominions. The daughter of Hamirji was married to the famous Mahmud Begara, King of Gujarat, whose protection was sought by Aliyoji, Rayabji, Khengarji and Sahebji, sons of the murdered Hamirji. Mahmud readily granted them support and sent with them a large army to Kutch. Jam Raol and Hardholji fought against them with singular bravery, but to no avail. They offered their prayers to the goddess *Ashapuri*, and solicited her help against the infidels. The divine mother appeared to them while they were asleep, and told them that there was not the slightest prospect of their winning success as they had perfidiously killed Hamirji, in spite of the fact that they had entered into friendly negotiations with him and had taken a solemn pledge to observe them. She, however, promised that if they would cross the *Ran* and go to Sorath (Kathiawad), she would accompany them thither, and assist them in establishing a new kingdom for them.

With this mandate from the *Mata* (goddess), Jam Raol and Hardholji crossed the *Ran* and marched into Sorath. They first pitched their camp at Dalisara near Amran. Dedo Tamachi was then reigning there, with whom they fought several battles and conquered the two districts of Amran and Kunad, each consisting of 24 villages, and placed detachments there. They afterwards removed their camp to a small hill, called Gedo, near Hadiana, and, after a few days, invaded the sea-port town of Nagna, then held by the Jethwa chief, and along with it, conquered a greater portion of the adjoining territory. Hardholji afterwards, accompanied by his followers, proceeded towards Dhrol. It was then under the sway of a Rajput prince, named Dhamal Chavada. The two rival armies met

in a fierce battle, in which the Chavada chief was slain, and Dhrol with 140 villages fell into the hands of the victor. Hardholji then proclaimed himself the ruler of Dhrol.

In 1539, Jam Raol founded the city of Nawanagar, on the site of the Nagna Bandar, and made it the capital of his principality. Hardholji, as mentioned above, took up his residence at Dhrol, and established a separate chiefdom. Thus by the favour of *Ashapuri Mata* (Hope-fulfilling mother) the two brothers, Jam Raol and Hardholji, became the founders respectively of the two States of Nawanagar and Dhrol in Kathiawad. Some chroniclers mention that Dhrol and 12 other villages were given in appanage to Hardholji by his brother, the ruler of Nawanagar, but it is not borne out by any reliable testimony.

Jam Raol after establishing himself at Nawanagar, conquered the southern and western territories from the hands of the Jethwas. In the contest the Jethwas were assisted by the Vala, Vadhel, Vagher, the Suba of Junagarh and many other chiefs. They were, however, opposed by Jam Raol, Hardholji and his son, prince Jasoji. In one of these battles the Jethwas and their confederates brought their guns to bear upon the enemies so effectively that they dealt destruction in the enemy's camp. Jam Raol and Hardholji consulted the best and bravest of their comrades, and, summoning all their men together, enquired if there was a single warrior, who would volunteer to spike the guns of their opponents. The brave Sodha chief of Parkar, Togoji, took up the gauntlet and with a desperate resolution marched to fulfil his pledge. He succeeded, though at the cost of his life. When the Jethwas saw him spiking their guns, they fell upon him and inflicting as many as twenty-four wounds, killed him on the spot. The Jethwas then thought that Hardholji was the only brave warrior left in Jam Raol's camp, and if he were killed, there would be an end to all farther fighting. They entrusted the work of getting rid of Hardholji to a Rajput adventurer, named Karsan Jambucho. The assassin armed with a lance rode up to the tent of Hardholji and demanded admittance under the pretext of delivering to him an important document. Hardholji was then taking his bath, and Karsan proceeding thither, pierced him with his lance and killed him. The news of this foul murder reached the ears of his nephew, Meheramanji Dungarani, who instantly jumped upon his palfrey, overtook the murderer and despatched him with a single blow. The main pillar of Jam Raol's strength, being thus broken, he retired to his capital with a heavy heart (1550).

Hardholji thus perished, leaving behind him eight sons, Jasoji, Unadji, Raghoji, Viroji, Lakhoji, Khimoji, Khengarji and Vajoji. The eldest of these, Jasoji, inherited Dhrol, while the others were provided with suitable estates.

The burning desire of avenging the murder of his father was constantly troubling Jasoji. The district of Kanjari, consisting of 12 villages, which is now known by the name of Chitrawad, was then held by a Rajput chief of the Chudasama tribe. He was the brother-in-law of both Jasoji and Bhanji Jethwa. On one occasion during the marriage festivities at Kanjari, Bhanji Jethwa and his wife had gone thither, while the wife of Jasoji, too, was invited on the occasion. The two sisters meeting together, each dwelt on the exploits of her husband and his ancestors. The Jethwa Rani, during the course of the discussion cast a slur upon the Dhrol Chief and his predecessors. The Rani of Dhrol taking umbrage, wrote a letter to her lord, Jasoji, desiring him to at once run over to Kanjari and chastise the insolent Jethwa. Jasoji was all the while scheming plans to wreak a dire vengeance upon the Jethwa. The invitation, therefore, was a god-send to him. He marched to Kanjari and killed Bhanji Jethwa.

Rayasinhji, the Raj of Halwad, and maternal uncle of Jasoji, once went to Dhrol, to pay a visit to his nephew. While they were playing at *Chopat* (drafts), the sound of a kettle-drum fell upon the ears of Jasoji. He got angry and ordered his men to enquire who was he that had the boldness of beating the drum on the precincts of Dhrol. His wrath was appeased when he was informed that a mendicant named Makan Bharthi was going on a pilgrimage to *Hinglaj*, attended by his *Atit* (mendicant class) followers, and that the drum belonged to them. Rayasinhji was taken by surprise and asked his nephew what steps he would have taken if the drum had been sounded by a Rajput chief. Jasoji replied that he would have got the drum torn off. The Raj of Halwad bore this in mind, and after his return to the capital, he raised a large army, and proceeding in the direction of Dhrol, ordered his kettle-drum to be sounded on the very out-skirts of Dhrol. Jasoji expostulated with his uncle to stop beating the drum, but in vain. At last he attacked the army of his uncle and in the fierce battle that ensued he fell on the field. While dying he requested a *charan* who was standing by to convey the intelligence of his death to his intimate friend, Sahebji, the brother, of Rao Khengarji of Kutch, exhorting him to avenge his death. The *charan* accordingly went to Kutch and related to Sahebji all that had happened. The brother of the Rao marched upon Halwad at

the head of a large army. Rayasinhji opposed him near Malia, and in the struggle, Sahebji was killed and Rayasinhji wounded. Jasoji was succeeded by his son, Bamaniyoji, on the Dhrol *gadi*. Karsanji and Hamirji, the other two sons, were provided with proper appanages.

Bamaniyoji had so many as thirteen sons, Hardholji II., Jivanji, Ravoji, Ashoji, Sahebji, Amarji, Khetoji, Akhoji, Meghji, Hardasji, Junoji, Hamirji and Pachanji. On the death of Bamaniyoji, the eldest, Hardholji II., succeeded him, while the rest received grants of villages.

Hardholji II. had three sons, Modji, Udayasinhji and Rammalji, of whom the eldest, Modji, succeeded his father to the Dhrol *gadi*; the others were provided with *jagirs* for their maintenance.

It is said that in the time of Modji, a rich treasure was found buried underneath the ground, on the outskirts of a village named Deval. A bard has written the following couplet on that strange discovery:—

- * ‘ Devla on the banks of the Dodi
- ‘ In the direction of the rising Sun
- ‘ Where facing stand two Khijadas
- ‘ There the treasure in abundance found.’

On the death of Modji, his uncle, Pachanji, the thirteenth son of Bamaniyoji, ascended the *gadi*. No important event is recorded to have happened during his reign. He had three sons, Kaloji, Sujoji and Sagramji, of whom the eldest, Kaloji succeeded his father on the *gadi* of Dhrol, while appanages were granted to Sujoji and Sagramji.

Kaloji was a brave warrior who earned a fair reputation for his valour. He measured his strength with the Kathis in a well contested battle, near Sartanpur Khokhari. The site of the battle field still goes by the name of ‘Kaladhar.’ Kaloji left behind him seven sons, Sangoji, Bhimji, Junoji, Jayasinhji, Meghji, Hothiji and Punjoji, of whom Sangoji ascended the *gadi*, while the other sons were provided with *giras*. When Nawanagar was invaded by a Mahomedan army, Sangoji went to the succour of the Jam, and in the scuffle lost his life. As he had no issue, the right of succession devolved upon his younger brother, Bhimji, who, however, remained contented with his *jagir* of Khirsara and 12 other villages. His younger brother Junoji, therefore, assumed the reins of government in his hands.

* The Gujarati couplet is as follows:—

- ‘ Dodi Kānthe Devlā, Ugamañe Darlār
- ‘ Sām Sām be Khijada, tṛāñ dhanno nahī par.

During Junoji's regime Kutch was visited by a dire famine and many of the distressed Ryots leaving their hereditary homes and holdings, proceeded to Kathiawad. Junoji very generously supplied them with food and dwelling within his dominions.

Jam Ranmalji of Nawanagar had married the daughter of one of the *Bhayads* of the chief of Jodhpur. This lady had obtained such a complete sway over her lord that through her influence the sole management of the State had been entrusted to her brother Govardhansinh Rathod. The Premier had, with the co-operation of his sister, reduced the Jam to the condition of a mere State-prisoner. She with the help of her brother clandestinely introduced a new-born babe into the seraglio and declared that she had given birth to a son, whom she gave the name of Lakhoji. When Jam Ranmalji died in 1661, the personal attendants of the late Jam explained the whole state of affairs to his brother, Rayasinhji, and set him up as rightful heir to the throne of Nawanagar. On the day that the obsequies in honour of the departed soul of the late Jam were celebrated at Nagar, the wily Govardhan did not allow the Jam's *Bhayads* to enter the town. He was with much ado prevailed upon to grant admission to the nearest of the *Bhayads*. Colonel Walker in his Report on Halar says: 'Shortly after they had assembled together at Nawanagar, Junoji, the chief of Dhrol, also arrived on the spot. While sitting in a private audience with Govardhansinh, he drew out from his waist a sharp dagger and despatched the unpopular Minister on the spot.' He further on says that the sister of the murdered Rathod went with her infant child first to Malek Esha and thence to the Muslim Suba at Ahmedabad for protection, but none of them gave her any succour.

Junoji had three sons, Khetoji, Muluji and Modji. On the death of Junoji, his eldest son, Khetoji, succeeded him, while his other sons were well provided for.

No event worthy of record occurred during Khetoji's time. After his death, his eldest son, Kaloji II. ascended the *gadi*, while appanages were granted to Waghji and Makanji. Kaloji II. was killed by Dangra *Bhayad*, and as he had no issue, his brother, Waghji, inherited the patrimony of Dhrol. He was a very daring and valiant prince. Once the Maharaja of Jodhpur was proceeding on a pilgrimage to the holy shrine of Dwarka, and on the way, he halted on the precincts of Dhrol. His attendants entering the town began to harass the poor inhabitants. They all went to Waghji,

and complained of the many hardships they were suffering at the hands of the Jodhpur people. He at the head of his army marched towards the encampment of the Maharaja. A scuffle ensued between the two parties, in which the Jodhpur men were defeated. Waghji cut the tail of one of the Maharaja's elephants, and carried the animal to his own stable. It was, however, restored to the Maharaja after much entreaty. The Maharaja of Jodhpur, instead of proceeding further on to Dwarka, returned to his capital. From that date originated the popular adage in Gujarat, "Atheya Dwarka." (Here is Dwarka).

Haloji was reigning at Gondal about the middle of the 18th century. One of his feudatories, Hothiji, (perhaps the chief of Kotda-Sangani), was moving about in Kathiawad at the head of a large army. Once while Waghji was lying encamped near Mitana, attended by sixty of his best horsemen, Hothiji of Gondal passed by him with his drum beating before him. Waghji sent him a word to stop beating the drum, but Hothiji heeded him not. A battle took place between the followers of these two chivalrous Rajputs, in which many lives were lost. A bard thus speaks of the occasion:—

Hala warn your Hothi
 'Else Gondalgarh shall fall;
 'Rouse not a sleeping snake
 'Or Waghdo shall your enemy be.'

Waghji spent the whole of his life in bloody warfare, and is said to have reigned for 80 years. He had seven sons, Jayasinhji, Meghji, Raolji, Khimoji, Amroji, Tejoji and Agoji.

Waghji was after his death succeeded by his eldest son, Jayasinhji, while *jagirs* were bestowed upon the other princes. Jayasinhji was generally known by the name of Dadabhai. He forcibly resumed the estate of Khirsara from the hands of his uncle, Bhimji, in 1760, but subsequently restored it to him.

Jayasinhji was succeeded by his son, Junoji II., who dying immediately after, was succeeded by his eldest son, Nathoji. He had other sons, Manoji and Satoji, who were also well provided for. Nathoji died leaving behind him two sons, Modji and Hothiji. The elder, Modji, ascended the

* The Gujarati couplet runs thus:—

'Hálá Hothi ne vár, Gadh jáshe Gondal tano '
 'Suto sâp mājagâd, veri thâshe Wâghdo.'

gads of Dhrol, while Hadji received several villages in appanage. During Modji's time Jam Jasoji was reigning at Nawanager. The famous Meheraman Khawas was then the most influential personage at the court of the Jam. He had grown so tenacious of his power that the poor Jam was a mere puppet in his hands. Jasoji, to free himself from his yoke of tyranny, applied to the Jadeja chiefs of Kathiawad for support. Modji of Dhrol, Meheranuji of Rykot, Dajibhai of Gondal and Kanmalji of Khirsara thereupon rose into an open rebellion against the authority of Meheraman Khawas. This confederacy, however strong, could not effect the deliverance of the Jam, nor could it in any way weaken the influence of Meheraman. These *Brigades* eventually succeeded in effecting a reconciliation between the Jam and his premier, Meheraman.

It was also in Modji's time that Jamadar Fattch Mahmud, the famous Vazir of Kutch, invaded Nawanager, but he had to go back without gaining his object. He first marched back to Khamblalia and then to Bhanwad, where he posted a party of his troops. He then went by the way of Dhrafa, and placing an officer at Dhrol he crossed the *Ran*. Modji after the Jamadar's departure drove away his officer from Dhrol and began to rule with independence.

Thakore Modji was, after his death, succeeded by Bhupatsinhji. In his reign, in 1807-8, the Diwan to His Highness the Gaekwad and Colonel Walker, the Resident of Baroda, arrived in Halar for the permanent settlement of the tribute annually paid by the Kathiawad chiefs to the Gaekwad. The sum to be paid by Dhrol was also fixed at that time. Bhupatsinhji applied to Colonel Walker and the Gaekwad for the resumption of the Sarapadad district, which had been seized by the Jam of Nawanager. Sataji, the brother of the reigning Jam, and the Rao of Kutch also pressed certain claims against the Jam of Nawanager. There were also other disputes pending, and the British and the Gaekwad authorities desired the Jam to amicably settle all these differences. Jam Jasoji was deaf to all the menaces of the Paramount Power, whereupon the combined armies of the English and the Gaekwad, under the command of Captain Cernaac and Fattchsinh Rao, marched against Nawanager, in 1812. Jam Jasoji for a time presented a bold front, but at last he was compelled to yield, and the district of Sarapadad was consequently restored to Thakore Bhupatsinhji.

Jayasinhji and Kesharisinhji were the two sons of Bhupatsinhji, who, dying in 1845, was succeeded by his elder son, Jayasinhji II. then only

21 years old. To the younger Kesharisinhji was granted one village in appanage, but he dying soon after without issue, his village lapsed to the Dhrol estate.

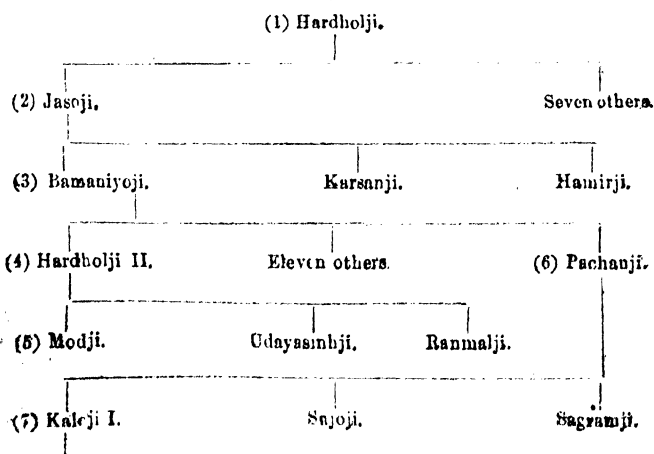
Jayasinghji II. was born in the year 1824 (in the month of *Kartik* Samvat 1881.) He ruled for a long period, during which by his tact and wisdom he was able to preserve peace throughout his State. Himself a good scholar, he always patronized men of letters. When Halar was visited by a dreadful famine in 1878 (Samvat year 1934), he saved the lives of many an indigent people by supplying them with provisions. He embellished the town of Dhrol by building a wall round it, and erecting a fine palace within the interior walls. He also spent large sums of money in constructing roads, gardens, *Dharmshalas* (travellers' inns), reservoirs and other works of public utility. Jayasinghji was one of those model princes, who administered justice evenly among his subjects. The late Jam Shri Vibhaji, K. C. S. I., who is considered to be the head of the Jadeja chiefs of Kathiawad, was always on very friendly terms with Jayasinghji II. of Dhrol.

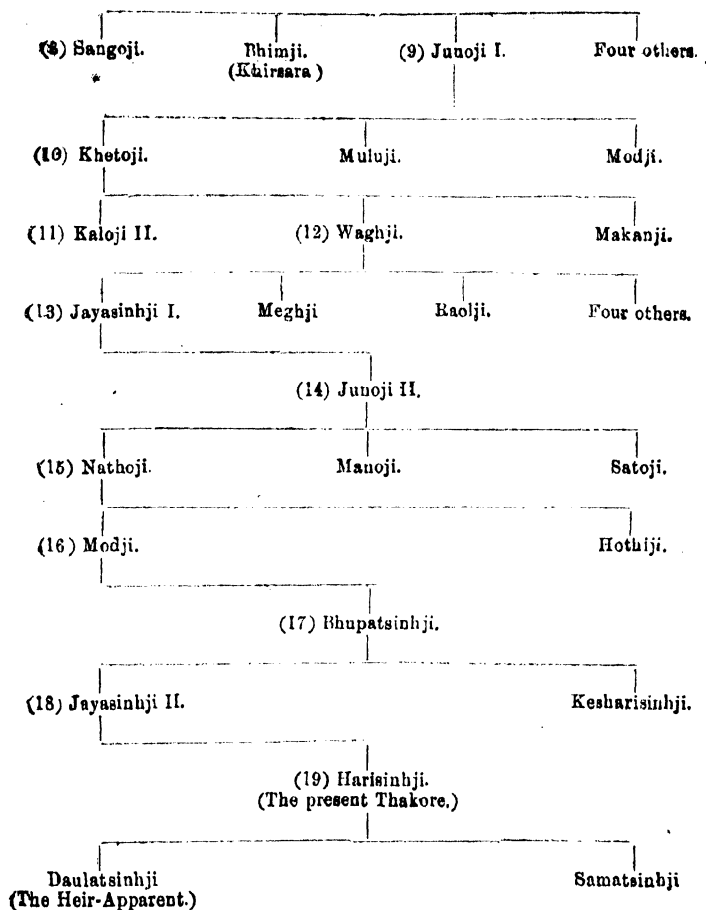
Jayasinghji breathed his last in 1886, (in the month of *Ashwin* Samvat 1942). He was succeeded by his son, Harisinghji, who is the present Thakore of Dhrol. He received a *sanad* of adoption in 1890.

Harisinghji has two sons, Daulatsinhji and Samatsinhji, both of whom have been educated at the Rajkot Rajkumar College.

The Thakore Saheb of Dhrol, as a second Class Chief in Kathiawad, enjoys full civil and criminal powers and is entitled to a salute of 9 guns.

Genealogical tree.





Residence.—Dhrol, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.



JANJIRA.

Area.—324 sq. miles. Population.—81,582.

Revenue.—4,70,507 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the Kundalika or Roha creek ; on the east, by Roha, Mangaon and Mahad in Kolaba ; on the south, by the Bankot creek ; and on the west, by the Arabian Sea.

The name of Janjira or Zizera seems to be a relic of the old Arab trade with India before the Christian era. Its rulers are Sidis, who are supposed to have migrated to Western India about the middle of the 15th century. At that time it was considered a fashion to import into this country a large number of Abyssinian and East African slaves. The latter were known as Habshis (Arab El Habish), or more commonly Sidis, a word used as only a corrupt form of Sayed. Though they were originally imported as slaves, they rose to high positions on account of their valour and faithfulness. In course of time there arose a separate community, which formed itself into a sort of aristocratic republic and took an active part in the struggles that followed the wane of Mughal supremacy.

The Sidis were considered to be the most skilful and daring sailors in Western India. When Malek Ahmad founded the Ahmednagar dynasty (1490-1508) he appointed the Abyssinians as captains of the island of Janjira. At one time Danda-Rajpuri (a town near Janjira) formed part of the dominions of the powerful Sultans of Gujarat (1450-1530). This place was, however, seized in 1490 by Ahmad Shah, the founder of the Ahmednagar dynasty. He then besieged the island fort of Janjira, which was after considerable difficulties taken and its Koli defenders were loaded with heavy chains and thrown into the sea. Ahmad Shah strengthened the fortress and entrusted its command to a favourite Abyssinian slave, named Yakut. The influence of the Gujarat sovereigns over these parts continued in name till 1530-35, when the greater part of the sea-coast near Thana passed into the hands of the Portuguese. In 1578, when Akbar conquered Gujarat, he ordered not to consider Danda-Rajpuri as forming part of Gujarat, but of Ahmednagar. When the Mughals conquered Ahmednagar in 1600, they appointed their own governors at Danda-Rajpuri. In 1618 an Abyssinian, named Sidi Siral Khan, was appointed governor. He was succeeded by Sidi Yakut (1620), and he, in his turn, by Sidi Anbar, more commonly known by the epithet of ' Sanak ' (The Little).

When Ahmednagar was finally conquered by the Mughals in 1636, Sidi Ambar was governor of Janjira. The Ahmednagar-Konkan portion was after this conquest made over to the king of Bijapur. The command of the island of Janjira was granted to the leading Abyssinian officer of the Bijapur fleet, who was also raised to the rank of Vazir. The first Bijapur Vazir was Sidi Ambar, who died in 1642. He was succeeded by Sidi Yusuf, who died in 1655, leaving the command to Fattch Khan.

In 1659, the famous Shivaji sent a strong army to invade the Sidi's dominions, but the Marathas sustained a disastrous defeat at the hands of Fattch Khan. Shivaji made every endeavour to repair this disadvantage, and in 1661 he directed his whole strength against the Sidi General, whom he drove back as far as Danda-Rajpuri, which he captured before any succour could arrive from Bijapur. He then opened bombardment against the walls of Janjira, but without any effect. For nine succeeding years (1661-70) Shivaji used his batteries against Janjira, but with no better result. At last in 1670, Shivaji directed a vigorous attack on Janjira, but when he found that the fort was impregnable against all his assaults, he resorted to the safer method of bribing over Fattch Khan to his faction. The bold but hard-pressed Abyssinian was on the point of yielding to the temptation held out to him, when three brave and patriotic Sidis, Sambal, Kassim and Kheriyat, prevented this treachery. Fattch Khan was loaded with chains and the command of the island was entrusted to Sambal. The new governor appealed for help to the Mughal Viceroy of the Deccan, Khan Jehan, who promised to assist him with men and money. The Sidis, seeing that the Bijapur government were not inclined to help them out of the difficulty transferred their fealty from the Sultan of Bijapur to the Mughal Emperor. Aurangzeb changed Sambal's title from Vazir to Yakut Khan, and gave him an assignment of 3,00,000 rupees on the revenues of Surât. Sambal being raised to the command of the Mughal Navy, Sidi Kassim was invested with the command of Janjira and Sidi Kheriyat was made governor of Danda-Rajpuri.

After Kassim was made governor of Janjira, he began to devise schemes to re-conquer Danda-Rajpuri from the hands of Shivaji. In 1671 during the *Holi* festival (March) when the Marathas were off their guard, he sent a small detachment, under the command of his brother, Kheriyat, to attack the fort by land, while he with a few boats approached from the sea. The sally proved successful and after a fearful havoc the place fell

into the hands of the Sidis. Kassim followed up his victory by capturing six or seven hill-forts, which made Shivaji uneasy at Raigarh. From 1673 to 1707, the date of Kassim's death, the Sidis were at constant war with the Marathas. In 1674, Shivaji reduced the whole coast from Janjira to Goa. The command of the Mughal fleet was transferred in 1677 from Sambal to Kassim. It was arranged, through the intercession of the Bombay Government, that Sambal's kinsmen detained at Janjira, under Kassim's custody, should be restored to him and that he should be allowed to retain command of one of the Mughal ships. This did not satisfy Sambal, who subsequently abandoning the Mahomedan cause, accepted service under Shivaji.

Kassim became the admiral of both the Mughal and the Sidi fleets and sailing from Bombay, began to devastate the whole of the Konkan coast. The Maratha admiral tried hard to prevent him, but was defeated and repulsed with a heavy loss. At last Shivaji and the English concluded an agreement that the Sidi general should not be allowed to land at Bombay unless he promised not to ravage the Maratha coast.

Shivaji died in 1680, and immediately after, Kassim started with his vessels to cruise about Danda-Rajpuri. Sailing down the coast, he came within sight of Vengurla, but after various fights and engagements, he returned to Bombay (1681). Next year Sambhaji sent an army under the command of Dadaji Raghunath Deshpande to besiege the fortress of Janjira. Later on Sambhaji, in person, joined the army from Raigarh, battered the fort for thirty days and finally organised a secret plot for its conquest. The Sidis, under Kheriyat, gallantly defended the fortress, while Kassim destroyed the whole of Sambhaji's fleet. The Maratha chief then attempted to fill the channel with stones and boulders, but before the work was completed Sambhaji had to run to some other place to oppose a party of Mughal cavalry. After his departure from Rajpuri his general, Dadaji, gave up the project of filling up the channel between Janjira and the main land. Dadaji, seeing that Kassim had retired with his fleet, made an attack upon the island, but was beaten back with great loss. At last the Marathas were compelled to give up all hopes of conquering the stronghold of Janjira from the sturdy Sidis. Sidi Kheriyat of Janjira died in 1699. His brother, Kassim, did not survive him long. On his death, in 1707, the Sidis appointed as his successor Sirul Khan, the Commander of the fort of Padamdurg (Kansa-Killa), about two miles

to north-west of Janjira. In 1713, Balaji Vishwanath, the first Peshwa, entered into a treaty with Kanoji Angria, the pirate chief of Kolaba, with the object of annihilating the power of the Sidis. Their territory was invaded, and Sirul Khan compelled to surrender his independence. In 1732 Bajirao planned an expedition against Janjira, but was forced to abandon it. When Sirul Khan began to ravage the districts held by the Peshwa, the Marathas entered into a secret treaty with Yakub Khan, a converted Koli, who was one of the best of the Sidi officers. He was offered several inducements, but the whole scheme fell through, and in the war that followed, though the Sidi's fleet was seized at Danda-Rajpuri by the united efforts of the Peshwa and Angria, Janjira remained unaffected and the Marathas once more withdrew from the field, baffled and crest-fallen. In spite of this unsuccessful attempt to seize Janjira, it appeared evident that the Sidi's power on the sea was, after Kassim's death, on the decline. Their fleet could now no longer cope with the more formidable fleet of the Marathas.

At that time events occurred at Surat, which also considerably weakened the Sidis' power in that chief centre of their maritime trade. The Emperor of Delhi had long before ceased to hold any supremacy over Surat. Tegbakht Khan, the ruler of the city, owed much of his success to the assistance received from the English Settlers. They endeavoured to obtain from Tegbakht Khan the position and income of the admirals of Surat. At first the Moslem seemed anxious to gratify their desire, but when he saw that his power was firmly established, he turned round. He could at once perceive that so long as the admiral was weak he could appropriate to himself a greater portion of his revenues, but once the English were entrusted with the command of the fleet, he would have to pay them the full stipend. Actuated by these considerations, he at last refused to grant them the command of the fleet. The Sidis were, however, not so weak as Tegbakht Khan had supposed them to be. Disputes arose between the Governor of Surat and Masud, the Sidi's Agent, which were finally settled through the timely intercession of the English. Tegbakht Khan was forced to pay a large amount of subsidy to the Sidi admiral.

In 1734, Sirul Khan died, leaving behind him three sons. The eldest, Abdulla, was murdered by his youngest brother, who usurped the *gadi* in supersession of his elder brother, Reheman, who was then absent from Janjira. The cause of Reheman was espoused by that formidable Captain, Sidi Yakub Khan, who summoned to his help Shahu, the Raja of Satara.

In a battle fought between the contending armies, the Sidis were defeated, with the loss of their general, and driven as far back as Danda-Rajpuri. Janjira was assailed from the side of the sea by a Maratha fleet, under Manaji Angria, and though the island was not reduced, the Sidis acknowledged the claims of Sidi Reheman. The Marathas obtained possession of certain forts together with half the revenues of the Sidi's dominions. Reheman was removed from power in 1739, and his brother, Sidi Hasan, was appointed in his place. He died in 1745, and was succeeded by Sidi Ibrahim Khan. He was for a time kept in the back ground by one Sayed Allana, who usurped the sole power to himself.

Tegbakht Khan died at Surat in 1746. The English espoused the cause of Mia Achan, who, in 1748, secured both the government of the city and the command of the castle. The Sidis, on the other hand, supported Safdar Khan and his son, Wakhan Khan, who, in 1751, summoned Damaji Gaekwad to their assistance. Mia Achan was forced to abandon the government of the city and retire to the castle. This was also subsequently seized by the Sidis, under the command of Masud. Mia Achan finally retired to Bombay. The English made a common cause with the Peshwa for ousting Safdar Khan and Sidi Masud, and sharing the command of the city. This alliance did not last long, and the English interests at Surat suffered considerably. Sidi Masud, who had grown to be a powerful man in Surat, appropriated to himself the entire command of the city. He died in 1756, and was succeeded by his son, Ahmud Khan. Safdar Khan, the old ally of the Sidis, had another rival, named Ali Nawaz Khan, who gained the support of the Dutch as well as of the Sidis. The now deserted Safdar Khan adopted as his heir one, Farist Khan, and applied for help to the English, promising to give them the command of the fleet if they succeeded in driving away the Sidis from the castle. The English, however, did not accept the tempting offer. Safdar Khan died in 1758, and Ali Nawaz Khan assumed the command of the city, setting aside the claims of Farist Khan. Before the close of the year, Mia Achan, who had been residing at Bombay, returned to Surat and expelling Ali Nawaz Khan, established himself in his place. He, however, acted only as a lieutenant of the Sidi general, Ahmud. Great disorder prevailed in Surat and the citizens petitioned to the English to come to their rescue. After mature deliberation they determined to make an attempt to oust Sidi Ahmud from the command of the castle and the fleet.

In the beginning of 1759, the English made a desperate attack on Surat both by sea and land. After a strong conflict, the Sidis were compelled to

come to terms. It was arranged that Mia Achan should continue to be the Governor of the city and Farist Khan should be appointed his Deputy. The English were put in possession of the castle and were allowed the fleet subsidy. The Janjira government soon recouped their loss of Surāt by obtaining possession of Jafarabad, on the south coast of Kathiawad (1759). Sidi Hilol, an officer from Janjira, was appointed manager of Jafarabad, under the orders of the Janjira government. In 1760, a rupture took place between the Sidis and the Marathas. Rāmji Pant, the Maratha general, obtained possession of some of the Sidi's territory and besieged the island of Janjira. The English ran to the Sidi's rescue and saved Janjira from falling into the hands of the Marathas. In 1762 Sidi Ibrahim was murdered by his slave, Yakut, who usurped the chiefship, and began to rule under the title of Sidi Yakut Sami. Abdul Rahim, the rightful heir, sought the assistance of the Marathas and repaired to the Peshwa's Court at Poona. At last in 1772 through the mediation of the English, it was arranged that Abdul Rahim should be instated at Danda-Rajpuri and should succeed Yakut on his death. Immediately after this agreement Yakut died and Abdul Rahim ruled over Janjira, till his death in 1784. Sidi Jauhar, the commandant of Janjira usurped the *gadi* on Abdul Rahim's death, setting aside the claims of his eldest son, Abdul Rahim Khan *alias* Balu Mia. The latter fled to Poona and his cause was strongly advocated by the famous Minister, Nana Phadnavis. Jauhar appealed to the English to settle the dispute. Balu Mia relinquished his claims to Janjira in favour of the Peshwa, who granted him a tract of land near Surat, yielding an annual income of 75,000 rupces, which now forms the native State of Sachin. The Peshwa was never able to establish his power in Janjira and the State remained independent. Sidi Jauhar ruled for six years (1784-1789), and was succeeded by Sidi Ibrahim. He ruled till 1792, when his slave, Sidi Jumard Khan, threw him into prison. Jumard dying in 1804, Ibrahim was reinstated on the *gadi* and ruled till his death in 1826. At that time the sovereignty of the Konkan had been transferred from the Peshwa to the English, who, too, did not interfere with the internal affairs of Janjira. Ibrahim was succeeded by Sidi Mahmud. In 1834, the British Government declared Janjira to be subject to the British Sovereignty. In 1848 Sidi Mahmud abdicated the throne in favour of his son, Sidi Ibrahim Khan.

During the reign of Ibrahim Khan the affairs at Janjira grew from bad to worse, and the English Government were compelled to intervene for the safety of the innocent subjects. In 1869, the Nawab was deprived of

criminal jurisdiction and a British Officer was appointed to look after the affairs of the State. The civil and revenue jurisdiction were allowed to remain in the hands of the Chief, who was instructed to communicate with the British Government on all important matters and to follow their advice.

When the Nawab was absent at Bombay, where he had gone to pay his respects to H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh (1870), the infuriated and indignant Sardars rose into rebellion and seizing the fort of Janjira, placed Sidi Ahmad Khan, the Nawab's eldest son, on the *gadi*. The Nawab appealed to the British Government, and a special officer was deputed to enquire into the cause of the revolt. That officer reported that though the Sardars were exorbitant in their demands, they in common with the other subjects of the Nawab had itious grounds for complaint against the existing government. It was finally decided to reinstate the Nawab to his full powers on his agreeing to reform the administration and be guided by the advice of the British Government. The Collector of Kolaba was made the Political Agent and the Officer residing at Janjira, was designated his assistant. In 1873 after urging their claims to no purpose, the Sardars agreed to submit to the Nawab, who treated them with the consideration due to their rank. In 1872 the Nawab attended the Darbar held in Bombay in honor of the visit of H. E. Lord Northbrook; and in 1875 he went to Bombay to pay his homage to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales. In 1877 the Nawab on the plea of a large deficit in the revenues, was excused attendance at the Imperial Assemblage held at Delhi.

In September 1877, serious riots broke out at Janjira between the Hindu and the Mahomedan subjects of the Nawab. That year the Hindu Ganpati holidays fell during the Ramzan month and a dispute arose as to the right of the Hindus to play music in front of the Mahomedan mosques. The Nawab issued an order, which in effect cancelled all restrictions on Hindu processions and their right of playing music in public streets. The Mahomedans took bitter offence and determined to prevent the Hindus from playing music in the public. Between the 10th and the 16th of September, seven disturbances broke out resulting in serious loss of life and property. At last the whole matter was set right by the annulment of the obnoxious order, in substitution whereof, a new order, was issued which satisfied both parties. The Sardars, once more, urged their claims, and their differences with the Nawab were settled. Mr. Pedder, the Political Agent, was asked to report on the then existing state of affairs at Janjira. His report clearly

showed that with the exception of those departments, which were under the direct control of the Assistant Political Agent, everything else was corrupt and rotten. 'Civil justice,' he said 'was almost a farce; no redress was given in suits against favourites of the Nawab. There were no public works, no water-works, though water-works were much needed, no landing places and no roads. The reckless cutting of timber was destroying the forests. Finally there was no responsible manager and the State officials were inefficient and corrupt.'

On the 28th of January 1879, the Nawab, Sidi Ibrahim Khan, died. He left three sons, two by a concubine and one, Sidi Ahmud Khan, the youngest, by his lawful wife. The party in power installed the eldest as Nawab, in spite of the opposition of the Assistant Political Agent. The Bombay Government did not recognise this succession, and Sidi Ahmud Khan was installed as the Nawab. The young Nawab has received liberal education at the Rajkumar College at Rajkot. During his minority, the administration was carried on by a competent *Karbhari*, under the orders of the Assistant Political Agent, subject to the direct control of the Political Agent.

The Nawab of Janjira pays no tribute to the British Government and has received no *sanad* of adoption. "As regards succession, the eldest son does not, as of right, succeed to the throne; but that one among the sons who is decided by the Supreme authority in the State to be fittest to rule." *

The Nawab of Janjira has inferior criminal powers and is entitled to a salute of 9 guns.

* *Vide Imperial Gazetteer of India* Vol. VII. P. 140.

Genealogical tree.

Sambal Yakut Khan.

Kassim Yakut Khan.

Sirul Khan.

Abdulla.

Reheman.

Hasan.

(An usurper.)

Ibrahim Khan I.

Yakut (Ibrahim Khan's slave.)

Abdul Rahim { brother-in-law of }
{ Ibrahim Khan. }

Jaulmar.

Ibrahim Khan II.

Mahmud Khan.

Ibrahim Khan III.

Mahmud Khan Bakshi.
(illegitimate.)One son.
(illegitimate.)Ahmud Khan.
(The present Nawab.)

Residence.—Janjira, Kolaba District : Bombay Presidency.



KAROND (Kalahandi.)

Area.—3,745 sq. miles. Population.—316,295.

Revenue.—1,22,484 rupees.

This chiefship is bounded on the north by the State of Patna; on the south and east, by the Jaipur estate and the Vizagapatam district in Madras; and on the west, by Bindra, Nayagarh and Khariar.

This principality was subjugated by the Marathas, who levied upon it an annual tribute of 5,330 rupees (Nagpur coinage), which was subsequently reduced by the last Bhonsle chief to 4,500 rupees a year. Directly subordinate to this estate is the petty chiefship of Thuamul, which is held by the junior branch of the Karond family. The Thuamul branch is again sub-divided into an elder and a younger branch, the head of the former succeeding to the chiefship under the title of Pata Raja, while the head of the latter assumes the management of the estate under the title of Tata Raja. This system of double government led to constant disputes between the Pata and the Tata Rajas. There also existed certain boundary disputes between the chiefs of Karond and Jaipur, regarding the district of Kashipur, which formed part of the Thuamul estate. The family disputes growing more stubborn every day, the Raja of Nagpur decided to separate Thuamul from Karond, and entrust its sole management to the Tata Raja. This arrangement obtained the confirmation of the Government of India in 1862. The claims of Jaipur against Kashipur were also disallowed by the Supreme authority. This partial separation of interests failed to set at rest the family feuds between the Pata and the Tata Rajas. It was at last decided to divide the principality of Thuamul between the rival claimants, of whom the Tata Raja obtained Kashipur, on his agreeing to contribute his share of the tribute. The portion, which fell to the share of the Pata Raja, was immediately placed under the jurisdiction of the Karond Chief, while that which was allotted to the Tata Raja was for some time allowed to be held by him as an independent *jagir*, but even he was finally, in 1869, made a feudatory of the Karond Chief.

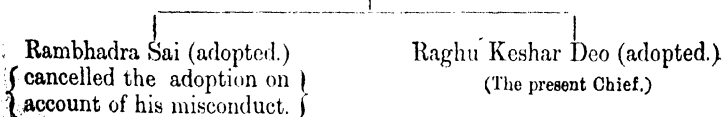
Udit Pratap Deo, the late Chief of Karond, died in 1881, leaving behind him an adopted son of the name of Raghu Keshar Deo. Long before the date of his adoption, Udit Pratap Deo had adopted one Ram-bhadra Sai, but in consequence of the misconduct of the youth, he had cancelled his adoption, and made a subsequent one in favour of Raghu Keshar Deo. The claim of the latter was duly recognised by the Supreme

Government, and he accordingly was installed on the *gadi*. A serious dispute, however, arose between the rival claimants, regarding the right of succession, and the Khands, taking advantage of the interregnum prevailing at Karond, preferred to the Government of India numerous complaints regarding the oppression to which they had been subjected. When they saw that the Government turned a deaf ear to all their outcries, they took the law into their own hands and rose into an open rebellion, committing several excesses, attended with serious loss of life and property. The disturbance was, however, soon put down with the help of the British troops. The Supreme Government, however, appointed one of their own officers as Political Agent, to look after the affairs of this estate. He fixed his headquarters at Bhawani Patna and carried on the administration of Karond. In 1887, that officer having been appointed as Political Agent for the Chhattisgarh Feudatories, Karond was placed under the management of a Superintendent, acting under the direct control of the above mentioned Political Officer. Raghu Keshar Deo was born in 1872, and was educated at the Rajkumar College at Jabalpur. In 1862, a *sanad* of adoption had been granted to his adoptive father, Raja Udit Pratap Deo, and a subsequent *sanad*, conferred on the ruling Chief of Karond, defined his status as a Feudatory prince of the Paramount Power.

The Chief of Karond has been granted the right of adoption and receives a salute of 9 guns.

Genealogical tree.

Udit Pratap Deo.



Residence.—Bhawani Patna, Central Provinces; Southern India.



KHILCHIPUR.

Area.—204 sq. miles. Population.—37,869.

Revenue.—2,50,000 rupees.

No record of the ancient history of the State is to be found. But the genealogy of the Bundi and Kotah Chiefs throws some light on this obscure point. From Anal Rai down to the time of Manek Rai, the Khichis and the Hada Chauhans had belonged to the same family. Manek Rai had a numerous progeny of twenty four sons, from whom the twenty-four Chauhan families sprang up. There was one Aje Rai among his sons, who founded Khilchipur Patan. This incident marked his descendants off as the Khichi Rajputs. The successors of Aje Rai were Dule Rai, Gautam Rai, Ramdatta, Man Rai, Mukund Rai, Somsarji, Lakshmansi, Lal Sinh, Bhomchand Rai, Sur Sen, Mohobat Rai, Kandhal Rai, Bhan Rai, Lunkaran, Ram Rai, Budh Sen, Sundar Sen, Kalyan Rai, Balan Rai, Indra Rai, Sangram Rai, Bamba Rai and Jodhaji. Jodhaji was the founder of Jabul. His successors were Hari Sinh, Chaund Rai, Dhupal Rai, Raridabat Rai, Mal Rai, Sang Rai, Brehepalji and Geshiji; the last named Chief had two sons; of them, the heir apparent, Prince Var Sinh, was one of the gallant generals of Prithu Raj of Delhi. As he fell in a battle during his father's life time, his younger brother, Belmanjuji, ascended the throne. He had one son and two daughters; Dewansi, and Misnats Gangabai and Jannabai. Gangabai was married to Raja Bijal Deo of Dhulargarh. Though they were so closely connected, the *Karbhari*s of the two States were bitterly hostile to each other. When Dewansi therefore came to his father's throne, he led an expedition against Dhulargarh. In the sanguinary encounter, Bijal Deo and his *Karbhari*, Gang Das, lost their lives and their followers were scattered. Gangabai became *sati* with the corpse of her dead lord. Dhulargarh has since been known as Gagroon, which name continues to the present day. The year 1195 is the probable date of this tragic event. A grant of fifty two districts in Malwa was made by Prithu Raj to Dewansi, who alternately resided in Malwa and Gagroon, which was fortified with a strong wall all round. In 1206, when Katub-ud-Din, of the Slave dynasty, seized the Delhi throne, Dewansi, in all sincerity, became his faithful and devoted vassal. The Padshah was highly gratified at his demeanour and presented him with a dress of honour, the proud dignity of Hazari i. e. "Leader of one thousand" and the splendid banner, named *Mahimaratul*. Again in 1210, he received an imperial *sanad*. All this greatly enhanced his prestige and power.

On the death of Dewansi, his son, Chaund Pal, succeeded him on the *gadi*, and he in his turn, was succeeded by his brothers, Sang Pal, Vaje Pal *alias* Vaje Raj, Ratan Sinh and Mal Sinh; all of them were the vassals of the sovereigns of Delhi. Mal Sinh had three sons, who became the heads of three distinct families. Jit Sinh was the eldest; to his lot fell Gagroon and Mhow and his authority was respected in nine thousand villages. His successor was Sadanji, whose contemporary on the throne of Delhi was Alaud-Din Khilji. Then Sarwant Sinh and Krodhaji ascended the *gadi*. Krodhaji had two sons, the elder of whom was named Bapaji, and the younger, Kalyan Das. Bapaji took for his wife Mismat Sitabai, a Solanki princess. He was said to have a strong turn for religion, and he preferred the austere life of a follower of Ramanand to the life of worldly pleasures and joys.

On the abdication of Bapaji, his younger brother, Kalyan Das, mounted the *gadi*. His successors were Bhoj Raj and Achal Das. Achal Das has won an envied name for his remarkably gallant behaviour during the fights with the enemy; for twelve days he kept up one engagement; on the thirteenth, he fell, but his head was found near the gates of Bhamarpol, while his trunk lay on the banks of the Sarvar tank. At both the places shrines were erected in commemoration of the Raja and they are still regarded with pious feelings by a large crowd of people. His elder son, Chachak Deo, fled to the Rana of Udaipur, the younger, being one of the victims on the glorious field; the third son, Pratap Sinh *alias* Patal Deo, marched in the direction of Gujarat, and having reached Pawagarh in safety, made it his permanent home; even today his descendants are to be found there engrossed in agricultural pursuits, and living on a decent maintenance. The fourth son, Gaj Sinh by name, fled to the east and founded Gazipur. One Bhagwan Sinh flourished in his line, who acquired great celebrity by taking part in hundreds of bloody actions, and the impression of his dashing valour is still as green as ever in the annals of the eastern countries.

The Rana of Chitod, with whom Chachak Deo had sought protection, assigned to him and his son, Dhir Deo, some estates for their maintenance. After the lapse of some time, the Rana put in a word of recommendation for Dhir Deo to the Padshah of Mandugarh, through whose favour a banner, called *Mahimaratal*, and a dress of honour, consisting of eleven clothes, were presented to him and he was restored to the *gadi* of Gagroon and Mhow. Dhir Deo was succeeded by his son, Veni Das. He had two sons; Jatam and Dewji. Jatam, who succeeded his father, died after a

short rule. His son, Raya Sal, now became the master of Gagroon. At the time of Akbar's invasion of Malwa and his encampment at Sarangpur, he ordered Man Singh with a small force to reduce Gagroon. The defeat of Raya Sal and the capture of Gagroon were thus ensured. The discomfited Raja, after some time spent in flight and plunder, appeared before the Emperor, who graciously bestowed on him Mhow. After his death, his son, Gopal Das, inherited the chiefship; the younger son, Jozar, who is known by the name of Jozar Khan, became a convert to Mahomedanism. Gopal Das had three sons, Ishari Singh, Surat Singh and Hari Singh. Ishari Singh came to the throne; Madhu Singh, his successor, had three sons, Indra Bhan, Udaya Bhan and Raya Bhan; of these, Indra Bhan, being the eldest, succeeded his father. In his time Rao Ratan of Bundi marched at the head of a small force against Mhow. Indra Bhan encountered him with his host, but was defeated, and his capital passed into the possession of his antagonist; thus the kingdom of his fore-fathers passed completely and irrevocably out of the family. Ratan Singh, Dhirat Singh and Jorawar Singh were the son, grandson and the great-grandson of Indra Bhan. Umed Singh, Pratap Singh and Lal Singh were the three sons of Jorawar Singh. Chatar Singh and Chopel Singh were the son and grandson of Umed Singh. Bhopal Singh, with his son, Chain Singh, was killed at Sehere. This event marked the sad termination of the line of Jatam, one of the two sons of Raja Veni Das.

To Dewji, the second son of Veni Das, the district of Chachani had been assigned in *jagir*. He flourished contemporaneously with Emperor Babar of the Mughal dynasty. He was succeeded by Man Singh, who appeared in person before Emperor Humayun, when he was proceeding against the Padshah of Gujarat through Malwa. The Emperor presented him with a dress of honour. Man Singh had two sons, Chakra Sen and Ugra Sen. The elder inherited his father's *jagir*. He used to stay at Biaora, where he was attacked by Raja Umat. In the struggle, Chakra Sen was slain, and Biaora was captured by the enemy. The younger brother, Ugra Sen, escaped to Delhi, where he accepted service under Akbar. When the Emperor set out on an expedition against Asirgarh, he accompanied him. After the conquest of Asirgarh, the Emperor was pleased to put him in possession of the six districts, Khilchipur, Biaora, Chachani, Balaupur, Dankiwada and Bhilwada. Thus he acquired the ancient home of his fore-fathers, and the Emperor gave him rich gifts of a *sikka*, a poniard and a dress of honour.

Ugra Sen survived his restoration but for a short time. His son, Wagghji, who then ascended the throne was a feudatory in the service of Emperor Jehangir, and marched at the head of several expeditions when so directed by the Emperor. He was shortly after dispossessed of the district of Chachorni by the Rao of Bundi, who attacked him with a large army. His two sons, Karanji and Nagji, were required by Shah Jahan to proceed with an expedition that he sent out against Bengal, where their operations extended over a period of twelve years. On his death, Karanji was recognized as the successor on the Khilchipur *gadi*, whereas the district of Velanpur was granted in perpetuity to Nagji by the Emperor. The inveterate foe of the house, Rao Raja Chatra Sal of Bundi, attacked Velanpur and seized it, after putting Nagji to death.

Diwan Karanji had two sons, Hathi Sinh and Kishan Sinh. The elder succeeded his father. Emperor Shah Jahan sent him rich presents at the time of his coronation and made his younger brother, Kishan Sinh, the governor of Ranala and Dahela. Diwan Hathi Sinh had a numerous progeny of nine sons:— Anop Sinh, Fatteh Sinh, Daulat Sinh, Sardar Sinh, Suraj Mal, Bishan Sinh, Prithi Sinh, Jaswant Sinh and Manohar Sinh. The representatives of their branches are even at present found either at or near Khichipur.

On the demise of Diwan Hathi Sinh, Anop Sinh, his eldest son, came to the *gadi*, and his accession received Emperor Aurangzeb's approval, who sent to him a rich dress on the occasion. He had two sons, Fatteh Sinh and Himat Sinh. At the time of Fatteh Sinh's accession, the coronation gifts were sent by Mahmud Shah. As the star of Peshwa Baji Rao was then in the ascendant, Diwan Fatteh Sinh prudently arranged to keep his agent, Padam Sinh, in constant attendance upon him. He had three sons, Abhaya Sinh, Hindu Sinh and Rup Sinh, of whom the eldest succeeded his father. His successors were Dip Sinh and Durjan Sal; the latter died in 1812. The mother and the wife of Durjan Sal entrusted the government to Balwant Sinh. But one Aman Sinh put forth his claims to the *gadi*, by the right of nearer relationship, before the Court of the Gwalior Darbar, who referred the dispute to the British Government. His nearer relationship was established, but as a strong party was working against him, it was resolved that his son, Sher Sinh, was to be placed on the *gadi*, the sole administration to rest with the eldest Queen-Dowager of the late Raja. The Gwalior Court at this time gave up its right of levying *nazarana* from the State.

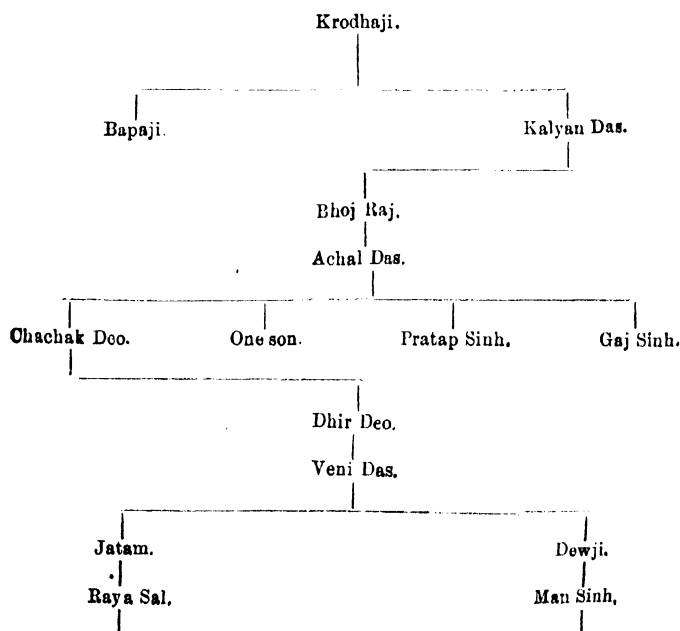
Thus Sher Sinh came to the throne, and it was further resolved that a tribute of 13,136 rupees in British coin was to be paid to Sindhia through the Political Agent of Bhopal.

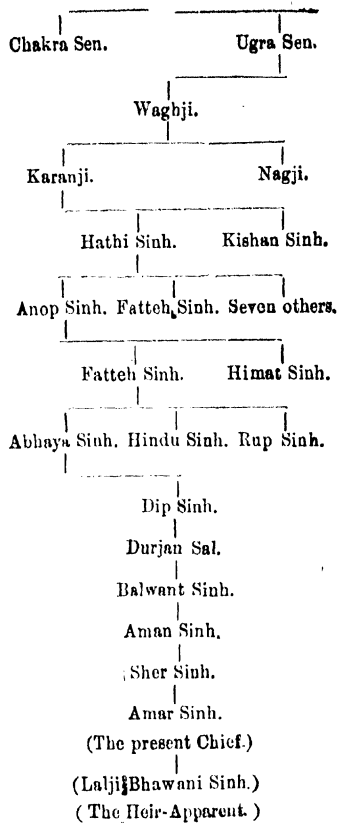
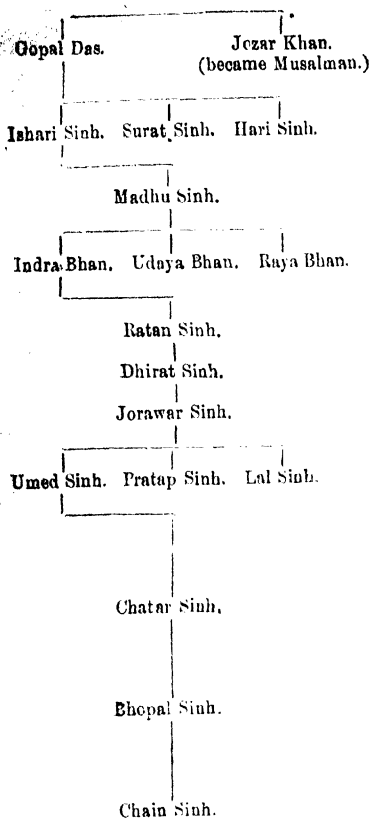
Sher Sinh expired on the 27th November 1868. As he left no male issue, the right of succession of Amar Sinh, a near relation, was recognized and he succeeded the late Raja. He was presented with a *sanad*, bestowing on him the hereditary title of 'Rao Bahadur' on the 18th April 1873. He has several sons, of whom the eldest is named Lalji Bhawani Sinh.

The Chief of Khilchipur has inferior criminal powers and is entitled to a salute of 9 guns.

Genealogical tree.

Aje Rai, Dule Rai, Gautam Rai, Ramdatta, Man Rai, Mukund Rai, Somsarji, Lakshmansai, Lal Sinh, Bhomchand Rai, Sur Sen, Mohobat Rai, Kandhal Rai, Bhan Rai, Lunkaran, Ram Rai, Budh Sen, Sundar Sen, Kalyan Rai, Balan Rai, Indra Rai, Sangram Rai, Bamba Rai, Jodhaji, Hari Sinh, Chaund Rai, Dhupal Rai, Raridabat Rai, Mal Rai, Sang Rai, Brehepalji, Geshiji, Belmanjuji, Dewansi, Chaund Pal, Sang Pal, Vaje Pal *alias* Vaje Raj, Ratan Sinh, Mal Sinh, Jit Sinh, Sadanji, Sarwant Sinh, and—





Residence.—Khilchipur, Bhopal Agency; Central India.



LIMBDI.

Area.—343 sq. miles. Population.—48,176.

Revenue.—2,64,000 rupees.

The State of Limbdi is bounded on the north by Wadhwan, on the east, by the Dholka sub-division of the Ahmedabad District, on the south, by the Dhandhuka sub-division, and on the west, by Sayla and other minor States.

Manguji, the second son of the illustrious Harpaldev, who first established the Jhala rule at Patdi (now Dhrangadra), was the founder of the principality of Limbdi. Harpaldev had three sons by Shakti or his Solanki wife, of whom the eldest, Sodhoji, inherited the patrimony of Patdi, the second, Manguji, received the appanage of Jambu and Kundni with 84 other villages, while the third, Shekhdoji, was granted the *jagirs* of Sachana and Chor Vadodra. The rulers of Limbdi are the descendants of the second son, Manguji.

Madhupal *alias* Munjpal, the eldest son of Manguji, succeeded his father after his death to the paternal estate. He was married to the Chudasama princess of Junagarh, and by her he had one son, named Dhaval or Dhamal. After the death of Madhupal, Prince Dhaval ascended the *gadi*. He had married the daughter of Vaja Palaji, the chief of Verawal Patan; from whom he received in dowry a grant of seven villages. He ruled over Jambu till 1194, when he was once expelled from the capital by the Sultan of Delhi, who invaded his territory. He forthwith proceeded to his father-in-law's court and with his help, conquered forty-one villages on the sea-coast. He founded the village of Dhamlej and made it his seat of government. After the Mahomedan army had retired, he went back to his old capital, Jambu, but finding it desolate, he returned to Dhamlej, leaving a garrison at Jambu and Kundni. It was from him that his descendants acquired the distinctive appellation of Dhamlejia Jhalas and they are still to be found in the villages situated on the sea-coast.

Dhaval was, after his death, succeeded by Kaluji. He removed his capital from Dhamlej to Kundni. After him Dhanrajji, Lakhoji I., Bhojrajji I., Karansinhji, Askaranji I. and Saghoji I., successively occupied the *gadi* of Kundni. Though Kundni was their capital they resided for some portion of the year at Jambu. After the death of Saghoji, his successor,

Sheshmalji, transferred his seat of government to Jambu. He was after his death succeeded by Sarangji, who generally resided at Jasdan, the chief town of a *Chovisi* (district comprising 24 villages) near Kundni. The rulers of this house thus alternately fixed their capital at Kundni and Jambu.

Sarangji was, after his death, succeeded by Lakhoji II. He made both Kundni and Jambu his seats of government, though he resided at either of these places according to his convenience. Lakhoji was succeeded by Vajerajji, who also followed the example of his father in residing alternately at Jambu and Kundni. Though Jambu was the ancient capital of his hereditary estate, he preferred to take up his residence in Kundni.

After the death of Vajerajji his son, Nagji I., ascended the throne. He annexed to his dominions the *chorasi paragna*, under Shiani. He incurred the displeasure of Sultan Ahmud Shah, the King of Gujarat. He was, on his death, succeeded by his son, Udebhanji, who re-built the fort of Jambu. He was succeeded by Khetoji I., after whom the *gadi* of Jambu was successively occupied by Bhojrajji II., Nagji II., and Khetoji II. This Khetoji was a very brave and chivalrous Chief. He was also endued with a fair and blooming countenance. In his time, Sardhar was governed by Vaghela Rajputs. The fair daughter of the Sarvaiya Rao of Bhadli was betrothed to Godhaji, the Vaghela chief of Sardhar. The courtiers of Sardhar had gone to Bhadli with a 'sword' to escort the marriage procession of this Sarvaiya Princess to Sardhar. On their way the whole marriage procession (Dolo) halted on the shady bank of a reservoir, on the outskirts of Kundni. Khetoji II. then happened to be enjoying his ride on his horse near the same tank. When approaching the tank, his turban accidentally fell down and his long and glossy hair streamed down his back on to his horse. The bride was watching all this from her chariot, and she was enamoured at the sight of his fair well-proportioned body, his skill in horsemanship and his long streaming ringlets. She could not help asking the Sardhar maid, who was sitting by her, who that horseman was. Regarding this the bards say :—

The Vaghela's marriage procession came and alighted at the tank.
There the handsome Jhala Chieftain, Khetshi, was exercising his horse ;

The turban fell from Khetshi's head, and his hair fell down loose,

The lady's mind became enamoured of him, as the snake clingeth to the sandal-tree.*

The slave girl replied, 'How should I know; what have I to do with him?' The bride, however, again asked her, when she replied angrily, 'Do you wish to run away to him that you ask about him so?' On her saying this, the bride became very angry with her, and peremptorily ordered her to enquire who he was. The female attendant was helpless and after making enquiries, she told the bride that he was no less a personage than Khetoji Makwano (Jhala is a branch of Makwana). When the bride learnt that he was Khetoji, the Chief of Kundni, she sent him a message, begging him to take her to his home, as she had fallen in love with him and swearing that if he refused her request she would commit suicide and thus he would be answerable for her death, and that if he were a true Kshatriya he would never refuse her offer. On receiving this message, Khetoji went into the town and sent his minister to request the marriage party to stay there for the night. They willingly agreed and came to the palace. Here the bride was taken to the apartments of Khetoji's women, but the rest of the party were allotted a separate lodging. After she had partaken of the food, served to her, the bride said to Khetoji 'As you are so brave you will not fear to keep me.' The following verses are recited by the bards regarding her message to Khetoji:—

'The lady sent her slave girl,
'Listen Makwana Kheto,
'Know you that I will wed a Jhala husband,
'Or else I will immediately give up my life.†

Khetoji was much perplexed as to how to act and summoned his relations and ministers, and told them what had happened. After much consideration they replied that as she had come of her own accord, they thought it would not be right to refuse to protect her, especially since if she were to commit suicide they would by refusing her protection be morally guilty of her death. At the worst there could be but a battle, and

* The Gujarati runs thus:—

Vaghelani jan avi sarovar utari; Tyan Chhogalo jhal Khetshi ghodo khelave; Khetshi shirmoliyo khaso, janike chhuta kesh Man bainu mohirahyun jyam chandanane lapeta shesha.

† The Gujarati is:—Baiye vadaran mokali, sun Kheta Makawan; Varun hun Jhala var janaje, Nike palaman chhandu prana.

of that they did not fear the result. Then the bride was told that Khetoji would keep her.

So when on the morrow the company were ready to proceed, the bride delayed to join them. After waiting for some time the Sardhar maid said that it was no use delaying further, as it was clear that she intended to live with Khetoji. When the men of the party heard this they were greatly enraged and prepared to fight, but being only a handful in number, they were all slain and the slave girl alone escaped alive to Sardhar, where she told Godhaji Vaghela of what had happened and how the bride had run away to Makwana Khetoji and how the escort had been slain.

Godhaji Vaghela vowed revenge and obtaining the aid of the Rao of Bhadli, he marched upon Kundni. Khetoji met them in battle and repulsed the Sarvaiyas, but was slain while fighting with the Vaghelas (1486.) He is said (like Mokhdaji Gohel) to have fought, after losing his head, until his body reached the wall of Kundni. His defeat of the Sarvaiyas is commemorated in the following lines :—

- ‘ In the battle-field of Kundni,
- ‘ Khetoji, the lord of men, was playing.
- ‘ Bhadli was defeated,
- ‘ The City of the Sarvaiyas.*

After the death of Khetoji, Godhaji Vaghela conquered Kundni and Jasdan and returned to Sardhar. Afterwards, Mahmud Begara, the famous King of Gujarat, is said to have besieged the forts of Jambu and Shiani. He expired in 1486, and was succeeded by his son, Saghoji II. †

Saghoji II., attended by 500 horse, betook himself to outlawry against Godhaji Vaghela, to avenge the death of his father. When he found that all his attempts were unsuccessful, he at last took shelter in Jhobala, a village of the *Bhayads*, about ten miles from Limbdi. Godhaji Vaghela, on learning this, marched against Jhobala at the head of 2000 horse. Saghoji like a desperate Rajput would have opposed this overwhelming force, but at last his heart failed him and he retired with his followers. Once while Saghoji was encamped at a village, named Vejisial, a shepherd of Sardhar saw him thus flying, and he retorted to another Kundni shepherd, named Viso, who was standing by, ‘See how your Chief

* The Gujarati is :—

Kundniê Karkana, Khele Khet narend; Bhadliyen Bhangan, Shahr Sarvaiya tane.

† For this account we are indebted to the Bombay Gazetteer Vol. VIII. pp. 531-2.

is running away before the brave Godha.' Saghoji, when he came up to the spot, recognised his subject, Viso, who entreated him to make a halt there and become his guest. Saghoji replied that a large army of the Vaghela chief was pursuing him and that attended as he was by only a handful of men, he was unable to fight against him. Viso cheered up the drooping spirits of his distressed master, by saying that all the 8000 shepherds, who had then come to that village, would willingly take up arms against the Vaghelas. Saghoji, highly pleased with this assurance, stopped at that village. After a few days Godhaji Vaghela, with his 2000 horsemen, arrived there, searching for the fugitive Jhala. In the battle that ensued the *Bharwads* (shepherds), who were all armed with swords, matchlocks, bows, arrows and other weapons, fought with singular bravery against the well-disciplined Vaghela Rajputs. When the battle was at its highest, Saghoji rushed forward at the head of his 500 chosen followers and pierced Godhaji Vaghela to the heart with a lance-thrust. After the death of their leader the Vaghela horsemen fled to their native land.

Now Saghoji directed his attention towards raising the *thana*, located at Jambu by the Sultan of Ahmedabad. He first invited the *thandar* and his subordinates to entertainments and banquets held in their honor, and thus inveigled them into his own clutches. Once when they were all enjoying a feast in perfect security, Saghoji and his comrades treacherously murdered them to a man. Viso afterwards went to Ahmedabad and bribing the minister of the Sultan, obtained a *firman* for the resumption of Jambu and Shiani. The Sultan from that day raised his *thana* from Jambu. Thus by the help and co-operation of the devoted and loyal Viso *Bharwad* (shepherd), Saghoji was enabled to regain his paternal estate.

After the death of Saghoji, his son, Sodhoji, ascended the *gadi* at Jambu. After him came in succession Askaranji II., Aderajji I. and Verisalji. The last named prince was after his death succeeded by Askaranji III. He removed his seat of government from Jambu to Shiani. Askaranji III. was succeeded by Aderajji II. "This Chief was once encamped with 150 horsemen near the tank of his village of Ghaghretia. It so happened that Chandrasinhji of Wadhwan, who was returning to his capital after the conquest of Metli, passed near Ghaghretia and seeing the shady trees by the tank, desired to camp there. He sent therefore a *charan* to request Aderajji to move his camp. When the *charan* had delivered the message, Aderajji replied 'You go another way, I shall not move from my father's land'. The *charan* returned and told Chandrasinhji that Aderajji refused

to move. The *charan* then endeavoured to persuade Chandrasinhji to go some other way, but he would not consent and rode straight towards the camp. Just as Aderajji was preparing for battle, 200 cartmen of Jambu came and paid their respects to him and asked him why he was so perturbed. He replied, 'Chandrasinhji of Wadhwan is coming at the head of 300 horse to fight with me.' The *Vohoras* of Jambu said, 'We have 200 carts and in each cart are two musketeers.' On hearing this the Thakore instructed them to draw up their carts in two lines so that Chandrasinhji must pass between them, and directed them not to fire until all the horsemen should be between their lines. They accordingly drew up their carts as he had directed, and just then Chandrasinhji's drums gave notice of his approach. When he and all his men had passed in between the lines of carts, the cartmen began to fire. Many of the Wadhwan men were killed and the rest fled to Kerala, whither Aderajji pursued them. Chandrasinhji and a few horsemen escaped to Wadhwan. The bards commemorate this battle as follows :—

- ' The sky was shaken and the Nag * moved,
- ' The brave and warlike Ado and Chando were enraged ;
- ' The two kings were strong armed like Yam,
- ' They two were very powerful and of immeasurable strength,
- ' Perfect in all stratagems and as death to their enemies,
- ' The illustrious Jhalas were of such strength as is rarely met.
- ' These two strong-handed ones advanced and attacked each other,
- ' As they advanced the two *Mals* † became furious ;
- ' The son of Rasangh much resembled Ravan,
- ' But Ado stood firm like Ram.'

When these lines were repeated before Chandrasinhji, he was much enraged and he ordered the *charans* to leave his territories. They replied that they were not to blame as they had warned him not to fight, but he had persisted in doing so and thus had suffered defeat. Chandrasinhji, however, would not relent and the *charans* betook themselves to Aderajji, and requested him to provide for them, and he gave them the village of Mithapur. As however the vicinity of Mithapur was covered with dense jungle, in which robbers took shelter and wild beasts abounded, the *charans* came back to Aderajji and asked for a village in sight of his

* The *Shesh nag* who supports the earth on his head.

† *Mal* means an athlete, a wrestler,

palace. He gave them therefore the village of Jhamdi, about 4 miles from Limbdi.”*

Aderajji was, after his death, succeeded by Verisalji II. After him came Harbhamji I., who removed his capital to Limbdi. Some writers say that he conquered Limbdi from the Chudasama Rajputs, while others hold that it was first founded by the Jhala Rajputs. He was constantly at war with the Kathis, who were his greatest enemies. They repeatedly attacked his territories, under the leadership of the Kathi chiefs of Jasdan and Paliad. Once when Harbhamji had proceeded on a pilgrimage to *Ambaji*, the Kathis, taking advantage of his absence, invested his capital. It was bravely defended by the Thakore's younger brother, Amarsinhji, who fell in the fight. Harbhamji on hearing this returned to Limbdi immediately and avenged his brother's death by defeating and repulsing the Kathis from the gates of Limbdi.

Harbhamji I. died in 1786 and was succeeded by Harisinhji. It was in his reign that Colonel Walker arrived in Kathiawad for the permanent settlement of tribute, and the amount to be annually paid by Limbdi was also then determined (1807-8).

Harisinhji, dying in 1825, was succeeded by Bhojrajji III. He dying in 1837, was succeeded by Harbhamji II., who reigned till 1856. Dying on January 8th, he was succeeded by his brother, Fattehsinhji.

The young prince, Jaswantsinhji, became the master of Limbdi on the death of his father, which took place in the month of January 1862. He is the present Thakore Saheb of Limbdi. During his minority the sole administration was for a time carried on by his mother. She, however, found it difficult to manage the affairs of the State and the British Government appointed, in 1867, an assistant to the Political Agent, who conducted the administration of Limbdi with marked ability and success.

Thakore Saheb Jaswantsinhji was educated at the Rajkot Rajkumar College. When he attained the age of majority in 1876, he was entrusted with the sole management of the State.

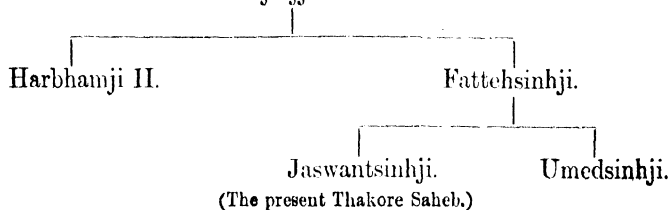
In 1884, Thakore Saheb Jaswantsinhji was appointed a member of the Legislative Council of Bombay. In 1887, he went to England, becoming a member of the deputation of the Kathiawad chiefs on the Jubilee occasion. In honour of that event he was decorated with the proud title of K. C. I. E.

The Thakore Saheb of Limbdi has been granted the right of adoption in 1890, and is entitled to a salute of 9 guns.

Genealogical tree.

Manguji, Madhupal, Dhaval, Kaluji, Dhanrajji, Lakhoji I., Bhojrajji I., Karansinhji, Askaranji I., Saghoji I., Sheshmalji, Sarangji, Lakhoji II., Vajeraji, Nagji I., Udebhanji, Khetoji I., Bhojrajji II., Nagji II., Khetoji II., Saghoji II., Sodhoji, Askaranji II., Aderajji I., Verisalji I., Askaranji III., Aderajji II., Verisalji II., Harbhamji I., Harisinhji, and.—

Bhojrajji III.



Residence.—Limbdi, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

MAIHAR.

Area.—400 sq. miles. Population.—77,438.

Revenue.—74,000 rupees.

The State of Maihar is bounded on the north by Nagode ; on the east, by the State of Rewa ; on the south, by the district of Jabalpur ; and on the west by the State of Ajaigarh.

The rulers of Maihar belong to the Cutchwah tribe. The name of its founder and the date of its foundation are not known, but it is said that considerably long before the English acquired a footing in Bundelkhand, it owed allegiance to the Bundela kings of Panna. Later on the territory was granted by the king of Panna to the father of Thakore Durjan Sinh in reward of his good services. Durjan Sinh was recognized as the chief of Maihar by the British Government in 1806, when the Bundelkhand chiefs were placed under British protectorate.

In 1826, on the death of Durjan Sinh, his sons fell out on the question of succession, and were about to resort to arms when the intervention of the British Government saved them from the horrors of a civil war at the cost of the integrity of the State. The territory of Maihar fell to the lot of Bishan Sinh and that of Bijayaragogarh to Prag Das. The British Government confiscated the territory under Bijayaragogarh in 1858, owing to the participation of Surju Prashad, the son and successor of Prag Das, in the Mutiny of 1857.

In 1849, it was found out that Bishan Sinh of Maihar was incapable to manage his own affairs ; the Government thereupon took upon themselves the conduct of the administration. In the next year Bishan Sinh died. He was succeeded by his son Mohan Prashad, who only enjoyed a short rule of two years. Raghubir Sinh, the present chieftain, succeeded his father in 1852.

For his abolition of transit duties and his non-acceptance of any compensation for land taken up for the construction of Railways, the Queen Empress was graciously pleased to bestow on him the dignity of a chiefship with a salute of 9 guns in 1877, at the time of Her assumption of the title of "Empress of India."

The Chief of Maihar has been granted the privilege of adoption, and is entitled to a salute of 9 guns.

THE HIND' RAJASTHAN.

Genealogical tree.

Durjan Sinh.

Bishan Sinh.

Prag Das.

Surju Prashad.

Mohan Prashad.

Raghubir Sinh.

(The present chief.)

Residence.—Maihar, Bundelkhand ; Central India.



PALITANA.

Area.—288 sq. miles. Population.—60,848.

Revenue.—5,00,000 rupees.

Palitana is bounded on the north by the territory of Bhavnagar ; on the east, by Bhavnagar and Ghogha ; on the west, by the Gaekwad dominions ; while on the south by Undsarvaiya.

The Thakore Sahab of Palitana is a Gohel Rajput descended from the younger branch of the rulers of Bhavnagar. As mentioned in the annals of Bhavnagar, Sejakji Gohel migrated from Marwad about 1250 ; and settling in Junagarh (Sorath) obtained the protection of the reigning chief Rah Mahepo *alias* Mahipal III. The Rah and his prince Khengarji welcomed the stranger with great cordiality, and conferred upon him the *jagir* of Shahpur with 12 villages attached to it. Sejakji gave his daughter, Valam Kunvarba, in marriage to prince Khengarji. He afterwards with the permission of the Rah founded the village of Sejakpur and made it the seat of his independent principality.

Sejakji had three sons, Ranoji, Shahji and Sarangji, of whom the last two being the brothers of Valam Kunvarba of the whole blood were granted the *jagirs* of 24 villages each, known by the names of Mandvi *chovishi* and Arthila *chovishi*.

Sejakji expired in 1290, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Ranoji. He transferred his seat of government to a village, named after him Ranpur. The present Thakore Sahab of Bhavnagar is a direct descendant of this Chief. The other two princes, who had obtained from the Rah the appanages of Mandvi *chovishi* and Arthila *chovishi*, established separate chiefdoms, Shahji made Mandvi his seat of government, while Sarangji made Arthila (now Lathi) his capital.

Shahji became the founder of the Palitana branch. He having settled himself at Mandvi, founded a village near a desolate mound of Rah Gariyo, and named it Gariadhar. He seized upon the adjoining tracts of land and consolidating them into a pretty large Taluka, established himself at Gariadhar.

Shahji was after his death succeeded by Sarjanji. He had two sons, Arjanji I., and Kumbhoji, of whom the elder Arjanji succeeded him to the estate of Gariadhar, while the village of Sedardi and Gundi were granted to the younger Kumbhoji. Arjanji I. was after his death succeeded by

Noghanji I. Mandvi had then fallen into the hands of a Sidhi adventurer, named Umar. Noghanji defeated him and recaptured Mandvi. Kanoji, a descendant of Ranoji, the eldest son of the illustrious Sejakji Gohel, who was reigning at Ghogha, died in 1420. He was succeeded by Sarangji. An Imperial army was despatched from Ahmedabad to Gohelwad to levy tribute from the reigning Chief. The officer commanding the troops demanded the tribute from Ranji, the uncle of the young Thakore, who, during his minority, was conducting the administration. The Regent sent a word to the Moslem General that as there was not sufficient money to satisfy his exorbitant demand, he had better return to Ahmedabad with only a portion of the tribute which he tendered, and added that for the payment of the remaining portion he was prepared to send his nephew Sarangji as a hostage to the Imperial troops. The commander being satisfied with the reply retraced his steps to Ahmedabad taking with him the young Thakore as his hostage. No sooner had the army departed from Gohelwad than Ranji sat upon the *gadi* and carried on the government in his own name. When the news of his uncle's perfidious conduct reached the ears of Sarangji at Ahmedabad, he contrived to escape from the surveillance under which he was kept, and secretly obtaining his deliverance he took refuge with the chief of Champaner. He then at the head of a large army, supplied to him by his host, marched against his uncle Ranji and lay encamped at Umralla. The usurper taken by surprise courted the assistance of Noghanji I., the Thakore of Gariadhar, and of the Thakore of Lathi, promising them a reward of 12 villages each. Sarangji, when he heard this, called both these chiefs to Umralla and appealing to their sense of justice and fair play promised them the same grant if they lent their support to him. The two chiefs, convinced of the rightful claim of Sarangji, readily espoused his cause. Ranji deprived of all assistance fell at the feet of his nephew, and without the least resistance resigned in his favour all the regal authority. Sarangji thenceforward transferred his seat of government from Gogha to Umralla. He in the fulfilment of his promise conferred upon Noghanji I. the 12 villages under Trapaj, while he gave to the Thakore of Lathi the 12 villages under Valukad. The acquisition of these 12 villages by Noghanji I. increased to that extent the territory of Gariadhar.

After the death of Noghanji I., the *gadi* of Gariadhar was occupied by Bharoji, Banoji, Shavoji, Hadoji and Kandhoji I. in succession.

While Kandhoji was reigning at Gariadhar in 1570, the *gadi* at Umrāla was occupied by Visoji. A contest arose between the Rana and the Janis, a sect of the Audicha Brahman holders of Sihor, owing to some difference on a very trifling point; and the Ranas called Kandhoji, while the Janis summoned Visoji to their help. The Chief of Gariadhar had a large following, but as Visoji made a sudden attack upon Sihor, Kandhoji had no other alternative but to return to his capital. Visoji took possession of Sihor and removed his seat of government from Umrāla to that place.

Kandhoji I. was, after his demise, succeeded by Noghanji II. Contemporaneously with him, in the beginning of the 17th century, Dhunoji, the son of Visoji, was reigning at Sihor. Loma Khuman, the Kathi chief of Kherdi, was an inveterate foe of Noghanji II. The Khuman in 1619 drove away the prince from Gariadhar and obtained possession of the capital. Noghanji II. applied to Dhunoji of Sihor for assistance. While Dhunoji was making preparations to proceed to the succour of Noghanji II., the Kathis fell upon him all of a sudden, and a battle took place near Velawadar, in which Dhunoji was slain. Ratanji, Harbhamji and Akherajji successively occupied the Sihor *gadi*, after the death of Dhunoji. Akherajji assumed the reins of government in the year 1622. Noghanji II. obtained his aid, and their combined forces marched upon Gariadhar, and in the very first encounter defeated the Kathis. Gariadhar thus fell once more into the hands of Noghanji II. They were, however, reconciled with Loma Khuman, to whom was granted the village of Ranigam.

Noghanji II. was succeeded by Arjanji II, after whom came Kandhoji II., who was followed by Shavoji II. The last named Thakore drew upon himself the enmity of Khuman Kumma, who occasionally plundered and laid waste some portion of his territory. At last the contending armies met near Khara and a battle was fought in which Shavoji II. was killed.

Shavoji II. was succeeded by his son, Sartanji I. After him Gariadhar was successively governed by Kandhoji III., Prathirajji, Noghanji III. and Sartanji II. Alubhai, one of the *Bhayads* of Sartanji II., treacherously put him to a cruel death, near Palitana in 1766, and usurped the *gadi*. Sartanji II. had a brother named Unadji, who obtaining the help of Odha Khuman of Ansodar, drove away Alubhai and sat upon the throne. The Bardic legend is that Odha Khuman killed Alubhai and with his own hands seated Unadji on the *gadi*. Whatever it might have been, this much however is certain that Odha always kept Unadji under his control and

thought of appropriating the *gadi* to himself, but in the meantime Unadji succeeded in turning the Khuman out of the capital.

When Unadji was reigning at Palitana, the neighbouring state of Bhavnagar was governed by Wakhatsinhji. Unadji devoted all his energy and attention to the material development of his principality, without taking any part in the internal warfare, that was then raging in the province. He collected a large and well disciplined army, and with that he thought of seizing upon Sihor, from which place his ancestor, Kandhoji, had to return baffled and defeated. The Khuman Kathis, who had gone into outlawry against Bhavnagar, were lying concealed in the Gir forest, and Unadji hit upon the plan of calling them to his succour to wreak their vengeance upon Wakhatsinhji. The Kathi insurgents readily rallied round his standard and a huge mass of a warlike race, reducing Tana on their way, marched directly upon Sihor. Wakhatsinhji was soon apprised of the dreadful invasion, and he, at the head of his army, reached Sihor before the enemy could arrive at the scene of action. Unadji at the head of the Kathi horse and other infantry proceeded towards Tana, but he was called back to join prince Kanddhoji, who met with certain ill omens. The troops, however, marched forward without the leader, and on their way encountered a party of men, sent by Wakhatsinhji, under the command of a Girasia chief, named Rayamalji. In the skirmish, a Kathi leader fell dead on the ground and the other Kathis leapt from their horses to secure the dead body. Rayamalji's men, taking advantage of this confusion, fell upon the dispersed Kathis and in the struggle several of them lost their lives, while others escaped. They again hid themselves in the Gir forest, but on their way thither, their leader, Mulu Khuman, was slain. The leadership then devolved upon Hala Khuman, who, taking Miranji Dhandhukia in his service, pillaged the village of Lagala under Umrala. Miranji was, however, slain and his corpse was borne away by the brave Kathis. The Kathis this time, too, beat a precipitate retreat and took shelter in the adjacent hills of Salimal. The Vanani Girasias, who were the *Bhayads* of Palitana, clandestinely lent their help to the Chief of Bhavnagar, which circumstance roused the anger of Unadji, who incited the Kathis to lay waste their territory. They were exceedingly harassed by these Kathi outlaws, whereupon Wakhatsinhji took them all under his protection, and placed small contingents at Jithari, Ambla and Bajuda, to prevent all further molestation.

When Shivaram Gardi arrived in Gohelwad, in 1795, to collect the outstanding tribute due to the Gaekwad, Wakhatsinhji, the reigning Chief, presented him a bold front. Unadji, taking advantage of this diversion, marched upon Sihor, accompanied by Hala Khuman; but they were both repulsed by Pathabhai, commanding the Sihor garrison. Unadji then repaired to the camp of Shivaram Gardi and exhorted him to lay siege to Sihor. Wakhatsinhji on learning this marched upon Palitana, taking with him several guns, but Unadji so valiantly protected the citadel against the besieging army that Wakhatsinhji was compelled to fly to his dominions. The Bhavnagar Chief with all his strength could not succeed against Palitana, though he overran Gariadhar and the surrounding district. A very strong spirit of rivalry continued to exist between Wakhatsinhji and Unadji, when they were at last reconciled by the friendly intercession of Kumbhoji, the Thakore of Gondal, who was related to Wakhatsinhji by ties of matrimony.

Wakhatsinhji had rendered desolate the whole district of Gariadhar and it yielded no revenue that year. The State of Palitana was steeped in heavy debt from which it was partially saved by the pecuniary help rendered to Unadji by Wakhatchand Khushalchand, the Nagar Sheth of Ahmedabad. This Jain merchant was greatly interested in the security of Palitana where their sacred hill of Shatrunjaya stands, and he, therefore, lent large sums of money to the bankrupt Thakore.

Colonel Walker, who arrived in Kathiawad in the year 1807, when Unadji was reigning at Palitana, to permanently fix the amount of the tribute to be paid by the different chiefs to the Gaekwad, thus speaks of Palitana in his Report:—‘The Thakore of Palitana has been obliged, owing to his extravagant expenditure and unwise policy, to mortgage many of his villages; while the rest have been snatched away from him by his infuriated foes. There is a Gaekwadi *thana* at Gariadhar, by which order is restored throughout the land.’

In 1820 Unadji died and was succeeded by his son, Kandhoji IV. The Khumans had at this time gone into outlawry against the Thakore of Bhavnagar. Jogidas Khuman once collected a large army, calling to his help the other Khumans as well as Oghad Vala, who was an outlaw against the State of Junagarh. They all went in a body to Palitana, where Kandhoji IV. received them kindly and assisted them with men and money.

In 1836 Sadul Khasia, the son of Samat Khasia of Manpur, plundered the sacred Jain temples on the top of the Shatrunjaya hill, in the company of some free-booters and gangs of robbers. Kandhoji IV. at once reported this matter to Mr. Blain, the then Political Agent of Kathiawad. The British Officer sent a *Mosul* (a party of men) to the Bhavnagar Darbar, peremptorily ordering him to apprehend the culprit and pay compensation to the party injured. At last Sadul was arrested in the village of Motha in the Und *Paragna*, under the Junagarh territory ; he was ultimately sentenced by the Political Agent to undergo rigorous imprisonment for 10 years and was removed to the central jail at Ahmedabad.

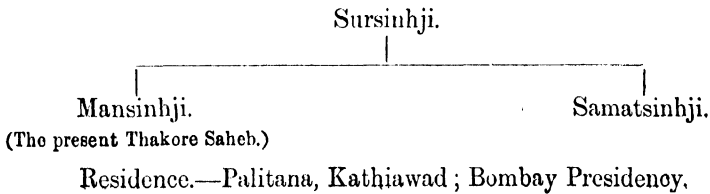
Kandhoji IV. died in 1840. He strained not a nerve to liquidate the enormous debt in which the State was plunged. He was succeeded by his son, Noghanji IV. In 1821 the whole of the revenue of Palitana had been farmed to Sheth Wakhatchand, in consideration of the enormous debt due to him. Such a state of things continued till 1831, when the farm was renewed to Wakhatchand's son, Hemchand, under Government guarantee. Noghanji does not appear to have been gifted with greater abilities than his father ; besides that, he created many enemies, and the State would have continued to remain embarrassed had not the wiser counsels of his son, Pratapsinhji, who mostly conducted the state affairs, prevailed. The young prince was endowed with greater wisdom and foresight. He at once perceived that the most important thing to be done was to free the State from the grip of the Jain merchant and pay off the whole debt. He directed all his energies to this end, and by his noble and patriotic attempt the State of Palitana was freed from all debt in 1844. He subsequently endeavoured to replenish the treasury and enrich the province.

Noghanji IV. died in 1860, and was succeeded by his son, Pratapsinhji. He worked for the amelioration of the condition of his subjects with the same assiduity as he had done before when he was merely an heir-apparent during his father's life-time. Pratapsinhji, however, did not live long to realize the many expectations formed of him, for he was cut off in that very year (1860) in which he ascended the *gadi*. On the death of Pratapsinhji, his son, Sursinhji, who was then only a youth of seventeen years, succeeded to the throne. He strove very hard to make Palitana flourishing and prosperous and it was mainly through his exertions that the treasury had become full. He was exceedingly fond of breeding good horses and devoted his time to manly pursuits. Sursinhji died at Poonā in 1885. His

son was not present by his bed-side when he breathed his last at Poona, so his attendants telegraphed to the prince and summoned him thither. The intelligence of Sursinhji's death was also wired to the Political Agent. The British officer at once took Palitana under his immediate supervision, and the government was entrusted to the eldest prince, Mansinhji. He is the present ruler of Palitana. The Thakore Saheb is endowed with good polished manners and belongs to the class of our present advanced rulers. He has received instruction in English and Gujarati. He has a younger brother, named Samatsinhji, who has also studied both English and Gujarati. He is now residing for the greater portion of the year at Bombay and takes a leading part in all the important movements in the capital town of the Western Presidency.

Genealogical tree.

Shahji, Sarjanji Arjanji, Noghanji I., Bharoji, Banoji. Shavoji, Hadoji I., Kandhoji I., Noghanji II., Arjanji II., Kandhoji II., Shavoji II., Sartanji I., Khandhoji III., Prithirajji Noghanji. III., Sartanji II., Unadji, Kandhoji IV., Noghanji IV., Pratapsinhji, and.—



RAJKOT.

Area.—281 sq. miles. Population.—49,939.

Revenue.—29,000 rupees.

Rajkot is bounded on the north by the Native States of Dhrol and Wankaner, and the Taluka of Gavridad; on the south, by the territory of Gondal and other minor Talukas; on the east, by the Talukas held by Kathi chiefs; and on the west, by the Native States of Dhrol and Nawanagar and a few minor Talukas in Halar.

The Thakore Saheb of Rajkot is a Jadeja Rajput and a descendant of the main-stock of the Jam of Nawanagar. Vibhoji was the founder of this chiefdom. Jam Sataji, who ruled at Nawanagar till 1608, died leaving behind him three sons, Ajoji, Jasoji and Vibhoji, of whom Vibhoji was the youngest. The eldest Ajoji was slain in the battle of Dhrol, leaving behind him two sons, Lakhoji and Vibhoji. Setting aside the claim of Lakhoji to the Nawanagar throne, his uncle, Jasoji, usurped the *gadi* and bestowed upon his younger brother, Vibhoji, the stronghold of Kalawad with 12 other villages. It is said that there were at that time as many as 700 villages under Sardhar ruled over by a Rajput chief of the Vaghela tribe. Vibhoji besought the assistance of his brother, Jam Jasoji, in conquering that district from the Vaghela chief. Vibhoji in return restored to the Jam his estate of Kalawad. Sardhar, which then occupied so prominent a position, is now a village under Rajkot. The maternal home of Vibhoji was in Sardhar, while he himself was also married to a daughter of the Sardhar chief. Vibhoji is said to have stayed during his childhood in the village of Chibhda under Sardhar with his mother. The Vaghela chief of Sardhar, who was at that time considered very powerful, had conquered all the territory to the south of Gondal from the hands of Chudasama Rajputs.

Vibhoji made a common cause with the then Mughal Suba of Gujarat, Prince Shah Jahan, whom he once put up to attack the territory of Sardhar. He also joined the Imperial troops and Sardhar fell into their hands.

Colonel Walker in his Official Report on Halar writes that the Vaghela chiefs of Sardhar had rendered themselves unpopular by their constant predatory excursions on the neighbouring villages. Vibhoji undertook to extirpate the whole race and obtained the sanction of the Mughal Suba at Ahmedabad to adopt any means to carry out that purpose. There was no one forthcoming to assist the Vaghela chiefs against the machinations of

Vibhoji. After settling everything with the Moslem Suba, Vibhoji returned to his place of residence and began to devise schemes for the destruction of the Vaghelas. With a view to carry out his hideous project, he invited the Vaghela chief and his relations to a banquet at his own house at Chibhda and when they arrived there, they were treacherously murdered, while they were still enjoying the entertainment.

Vibhoji then seized upon Sardhar, where the Mughal Suba placed a *thandar* of his own. Vibhoji also took up his residence at Sardhar, though he was obliged to stay there under the eye of the Moslem *thandar*. Vibhoji, however, on account of his rare intelligence and courage succeeded in obtaining great influence over the *thandar*. The Kathis overran the eastern part of the territory conquered by Vibhoji and the Suba from the Vaghela chief. Vibhoji, however, by dint of hard labour and promptitude prevented them from taking possession of the western territory. He, for this signal service, received from the Mughal Emperor the grant of the villages of Ardoi, Rib, Ribda, Kalipat and one or two other villages. Vibhoji died in the year 1635, and was succeeded by his son, Meheramanji I. He was also obliged to remain at Sardhar under the direct control of the Mahomedan *thandar*. The Kathis were still laying waste the villages under the direct control of the Mahomedan *thandar*. They were also overrunning the villages under Dholka and Dhandhuka and were often harassing the *fouzdar* of that district. Azam Khan, the Suba of Gujarat, thereupon marched against them at the head of a large army in 1640. Meheramanji and the *thandar* of Sardhar also took part in the campaign. They made themselves conspicuous by according to the Suba their cordial support in subduing the rebellious Kathis. Their services were rewarded by grant of several villages.

Meheramanji had married the daughter of the Chudasama Girasia of Gondal, while his other wife was the daughter of some other Rajput chief. His eldest son, Sahebji, was born of the other Rani, while the Gondal Rani had also a son, named Kumbhoji. The mother of Sahebji had died leaving him a mere infant. Meheramanji was completely under the control of the Gondal Rani, who was uncommonly harsh in her treatment towards the infant heir-apparent. Afraid of his step-mother's wicked intentions, he fled to Nawanagar, but returned to Sardhar before the death of his father, Meheramanji, which took place about the year 1650. He succeeded to the throne through the support of the Mussalman *thandar* of Sardhar.

On the accession of Sahebji, Kumbhoji fled to his maternal home at Gondal and drove away his uncle who escaped to Ribda. Sahebji took up his abode at Sardhar. When Kutab-ud-Din Peshgi, the *fouzdar* of Sorath, invaded Nawanagar in 1664 at the head of a large army, Sahebji went to his assistance. Sahebji and his brother, Kumbhoji, lived on hostile terms with each other but a reconciliation was brought about between them through the friendly intercession of Kutab-ud-Din. Meheramanji had during his life-time conferred upon Kumbhoji the villages of Ardoi and Rib, but they had been in the possession of Sahebji. They were, however, restored to Kumbhoji, who resigned all his claims to the outstanding revenues.

Sahebji resided at Sardhar till his death in 1675. He was succeeded by his son, Bamanioji. He for the most part resided at Kalipat, a village near Sardhar, though he occasionally visited Rajkot and Sardhar on State business. Bamanioji, too, received several villages from the *thandar* of Sardhar. Once during the *Holi* holidays, when Bamanioji had gone to Rajkot the Mianas marched upon Kalipat and drove away several herds of cattle from the village. The Thakore, however, came up and pursuing the plunderers overtook them near Naklang Vid. A fierce scuffle ensued, in which he was killed (1694). Bamanioji was succeeded by Meheramanji II. The new Thakore was a brave warrior, who conquered many of the villages adjoining Rajkot from the Nawab of Junagarh. In 1720 Masum Khan, the Naib *fouzdar*, marched against Rajkot which he conquered from Meheramanji, who fell in the contest. The *fouzdari* of Rajkot and Sardhar was after the death of Meheramanji II., in 1720, conferred upon Masum Khan. Babi Mahmud Bahadur, however, exchanged this *fouzdari* for the villages of Jasdan, Anandpur and Bhadla, under Rajkot, which he conferred upon Masum Khan in *jagir*. The *fouzdari* of Rajkot was after him given to Masum Ali Khan, who, in 1722, built a fort at Rajkot. He also gave the name of Masumabad to the town of Rajkot. Masum Khan, otherwise known by the name of Sujat Khan, ruled over Rajkot after the death of Meheramanji II. till the year 1732.

• Meheramanji II. had left behind him seven sons, of whom the eldest, Ranmalji, began to devise means to reconquer, from the Mussalmans, Rajkot, Sardhar and other possessions, which had been wrested from his father. In 1732 he succeeded in killing Masum Khan and taking possession of Rajkot. He then made preparations to march upon Sardhar. He sought the assistance of Haloji of Gondal, who refused to render him any help.

He afterwards obtained the support of Tejmalji of Kotda-Sangani and their combined troops marched upon Sardhar. They besieged the hill-fort, but found that their battering train would not be able to effect a breach within its walls. The garrison defending the citadel was also too numerous and strong for the besieging troops. They were, therefore, compelled to raise the siege and retire. Ranmalji, foiled in his attempt, remained quiet for a time, awaiting the absence of the *thandar* from Sardhar. Once while Bakar Khan, the *thandar* of Sardhar, was going towards Kalipat, unattended by his retinue, Ranmalji with a chosen detachment of his troops pursued him and overtook him near 'Sardharidhar'. The *thandar*, who found himself surrounded on all sides, met with a very cruel death. Ranmalji once more began to collect troops for the capture of Sardhar, but during the interval it was seized by Lakha Khachar of Bhadla, who had besieged it at the head of a large army consisting of the warlike Kathis. Ranmalji, on hearing this, once more applied to Tejmalji of Kotda-Sangani for support and their combined troops besieged and stormed the fort of Sardhar. It has ever since been held by the Chief of Rajkot. Once during the absence of Ranmalji, Rama Khachar of Anandpur besieged Sardhar and captured it, but he was soon turned out by Ranmalji, who in retaliation marched upon Anandpur and destroyed it.

Ranmalji had six brothers, of whom Modji was given Gavridad and five other villages. Similarly the *jagirs* of Shahpur, Pal, Kotharia, Bhichdi, and Khokhardad, with five villages attached to each of them, were granted to Kalyanji, Harbhamji, Dadoji, Jasaji and Phulji respectively.

Ranmalji died in 1746. He had four sons, of whom the eldest Lakhoji (Bawoji) succeeded to the throne. The appanages of Manekwad, Gadhka and Tramba with two villages appended to each of them were granted to Vajerajji, Akherajji and Prathirajji respectively.

Lakhoji, who was quite incompetent to carry on the affairs of government, entrusted the sole management to his eldest son, Meheramanji III. Besides Meheramanji, Lakhoji had four sons, Veroji, Togaji, Suraji and Visoji. The estates of Varjtirth, Samadhiala and Sajadiali were given to both Veroji and Togaji, while Padasar and a moiety of Kathrota were given to Suraji. Each brother had thus received a village and a half in appanage. The last, Visoji, had been killed while fighting with the Kathis near Varjtirth. The monumental stones erected in honour of Visoji are still to be seen near Varjtirth and in Sardhar. It is now customary with the descendants of

Vibhoji Jadeja, the founder of the Rajkot throne, to go and pay respects to these monumental stones before they are installed on the *gadi*. After every wedding in the family the bride and bride-groom also repair thither and kneel before these stones.

Veroji taking advantage of Lakhoji's weakness marched upon Sardhar and reduced it to submission. Colonel Walker says that the Kathis at that time began to plunder and lay waste the surrounding territory. Meheramanji III., the son of Lakhoji, with a view to put a stop to these incursions bestowed upon the principal leaders of the Kathi bands the villages of Bhadla, Jasdan, and Anandpur Mewasa. Besides that, the greater portion of the territory was distributed among the *Bhayads*; while Kumbhoji II., the Thakore of Gondal, forcibly seized a tenth part of the dominions. The territorial extent of Rajkot had therefore undergone a considerable diminution at that period.

Prince Meheramanji was a poet of no ordinary repute. He composed a poetical work in Hindustani to which he gave the name of "Pravin Sagar." This work is even to-day highly spoken of in many parts of India. Meheramanji died, in 1794, during the lifetime of his father, Lakhoji. He left behind him a son, named Ranmalji.

After the demise of Meheramanji, Lakhoji resumed the administration of affairs, but after a year and a half he was driven out by his grandson, Ranmalji, who, repenting of his unfilial conduct, called the old man back to the capital. After taking the reins of government into his hands, he appointed his second son, the Girasia of Lodhika, as his minister. Such a state of things continued for a year and a half. Once while Lakhoji was going from Rajkot to Sardhar, Ranmalji, at the instance of his younger brother, Dadoji, once more seized upon the capital. Dadoji thenceforward became the sole administrator under his elder brother, Ranmalji. He went to Sardhar and brought over his grandfather, Lakhoji, to Rajkot. Lakhoji proceeded to Nawanagar, where he expired in 1796.

After the death of Lakhoji, Ranmalji became the Chief of Rajkot. His uncle, Veroji, had, during the time of Lakhoji, forcibly taken possession of Sardhar, which the new Thakore now attempted to regain. When Colonel Walker arrived in Kathiawad, in 1807-8, to determine the amount of tribute to be paid by the various chiefs to H. H. the Gaekwad, he confirmed Veroji in the possession of Sardhar. Captain Bullantyne,

however, expelled Veroji from Sardhar and restored it to Ranmalji. Veroji then proceeded to Khambha, where he took up his residence. Ranmalji gave to his brother Sangaji *alias* Dadabhai the appanage of Dholera. Ranmalji had married three wives. One of them, Jamba, was the daughter of a *Bhayad* of Sayla, the second, Adiba, was the daughter of the Girasia of Ankewalia, a *Bhayad* of Limbdi, while the third, Motiba, was the daughter of the Thakore of Mogar in Gujarat. The eldest son, Suraji, was born of Jamba, while by Motiba he had another son, named Hothiji.

Ranmalji died in 1825, and was succeeded by Suraji. Hothiji had died a few days before his father but as he had a son, named Bhupatsinhji, the village of Dholera was granted to him in *giras*. This village was given to Sangaji *alias* Dadabhai, but as he had died childless it was resumed by the State but was now given to Bhupatsinhji. Suraji had two wives, Amjiba, the daughter of the Thakore of Sayla, and Naniba, the daughter of Abherajji, the Jhala chief of Chuda. Amjiba had a son, named Gagubha, who died at the age of five years; while Naniba had a son, named Meheramanji. Suraji, dying in 1844, was succeeded by Meheramanji IV.

Meheramanji had married four wives. The first, Hajuba, was the daughter of the Raj Saheb of Wankaner. The second, Hariba, the mother of the late Thakore Bawajiraj, was the daughter of Akherajji of Lakhanka, a *Bhayad* of the Bhavnagar Thakore. The third, Bairajba, was the daughter of the Girasia of Kundla, one of the *Bhayads* of the Thakore of Chuda. The fourth, Ba Kunwarba, who was the daughter of the Vaghela Thakore of Machhiav in the Ahmedabad collectorate, gave birth to Laghubha, the half-brother of the late Bawajiraj. The heir-apparent, Bawajiraj, was born on Saturday 30th August 1856.

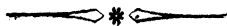
Meheramanji died in 1862, and was succeeded by Bawajiraj. During his minority the administration was carried on by his grand-mother, Naniba, till 1867. In that year Colonel Keatinge, the Political Agent of Kathiawad, with the permission of Government, entrusted the management of Rajkot and Limbdi to Captain (now Major) J. H. Loyd. He and his successors administered the affairs of Rajkot till 1874, when the young chief was entrusted with limited powers in the management of his State. At last on 17th January 1876, the Thakore Saheb was entrusted with the sole administration of his State. Bawajiraj received his education in English and Gujarati at the Rajkumar College, where he prosecuted his studies till 1874, while his younger brother, Laghubha, was also educated at the same

institution. The heir-apparent, Lakhoji, was born to Bawajiraj by his Kanpur wife, on 16th May 1883.

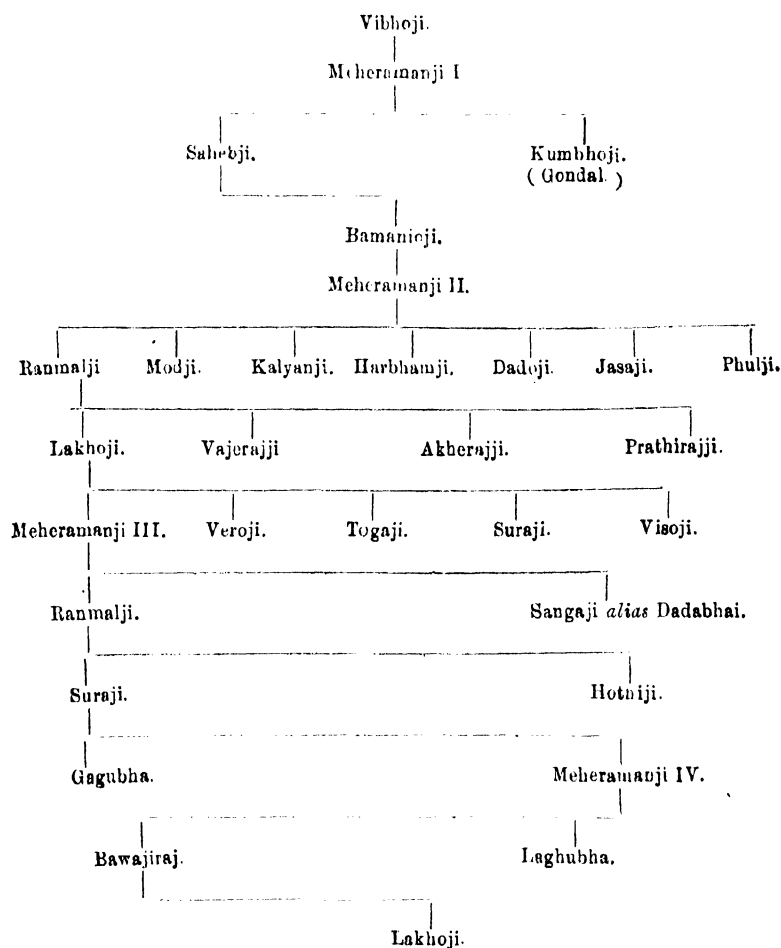
Thakore Saheb Bawajiraj took a prominent part in the celebration of the 'Jubilee' in commemoration of H. I. M's completing the 50th year of her reign in 1887. He showed his loyalty to the Imperial Throne by observing it as a day of public rejoicings and by providing the needy and the indigent with food and clothing.

Thakore Shri Bawajiraj unfortunately died in the very prime of his life in 1889. He was succeeded by his son, Lakhoji, the present Thakore Saheb of Rajkot, who was then only six years old. Owing to his tender age, the administration is carried on by Mr. Motichand Tulsi, the able and experienced *Karbhari* of the late Thakore Saheb, under the direct supervision of the Political Agent. The Thakore Saheb received a *sanad* of adoption in 1890.

The Thakore of Rajkot is a second class Chief in Kathiawad, and enjoys criminal jurisdiction empowering him to pass capital sentence for murder and such other grave offences committed by his subjects, without obtaining the sanction of the Political Agent. He enjoys full civil powers and is entitled to a salute of nine guns.



Genealogical tree.



(The present Thakore Sahib.)

Residence.—Rajkot, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.



SACHIN.

Area.—42 sq. miles. Population.—21289.

Revenue.—20,2,988 rupees.

The Nawabs of Sachin, though originally Africans,* are now styled Sidi Mahomedans. Though no account has been obtained regarding their ancestors or the date of their migration to this land, yet this much has been ascertained that ever since the fifteenth century they have figured prominently as the Sidis of Janjira or Danda-Rajpuri in the Konkan. They received the *jagir* from Mahmud Begara, the Padshah of Gujarat, in 1489, in return of their services as admirals of his navy and escort of the fleets carrying Mahomedan pilgrims to Mecca. They pursued this honourable profession till 1686, at the end of which year, they threw off their allegiance to the Emperors of Delhi and took to piracy, plundering all the merchant vessels, except those under the British flag. They commenced hostilities against the Marathas also. Baji Rao Peshwa, thereupon, dispossessed them of a large portion of their *jagir*, but the fortress of Janjira remained in their possession.

Sidi Abdul Rahim, who was on the Janjira *gadi*, was dethroned in 1762 by another Sidi, named Yakut. Though overwhelmed with grief at the loss of his throne, he did not lose his heart. He courageously took to outlawry against the usurper, and so successful was he in harassing him that he was forced to express his willingness to come to terms. It was mutually agreed that Abdul Rahim should succeed Yakut on his death. In pursuance of this arrangement, Abdul Rahim regained the *gadi*, from which he was deposed by his rival, on Yakut's death in 1772. He died after a rule of twelve years in 1784. His death again threw the State into difficulties. His eldest son, Abdul Kariim Yakut Khan, was forestalled by the prompt seizure of the throne by a military adventurer, named Johar. The youth, Balu Miyan as he was familiarly known, whose right of succession was thus outrageously invaded, went to the court of Peshwa Savai Madhavrao and laid his grievances before that astute minister, Nana Phadnavis. Nana at once comprehended the situation. He saw that an opportunity had arrived to establish his master's supremacy over Janjira,—to do a task towards the accomplishment of which, all the former Peshwas had ineffectually attempted. He espoused Balu Miyan's cause and gave his support ungrudgingly in

* For further account of this family see Janjira.

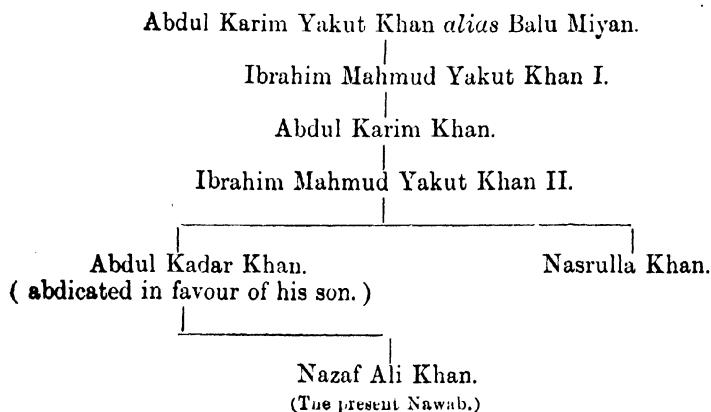
every shape and colour. Johar threw himself on the resources and help of the British Government, and evinced his determination not to surrender the fortress till a single soul was left alive to fight by his side. Balumiyān, though he had received assurances of the Peshwa's support and a recognition of his title to Janjira, secretly assigned to the British Government, through their Commissioner, Mr. Mallet, what right, title and interest he had in the State. The British Government in consideration of the assignment bestowed on him the estate of Sachin near Surat, in 1720. At present it consists of twenty villages, 17 in the *chorashi* division and 3 in the Jalalpur division of the district of Surat. Balu Miyan first took up his residence at Surat, but subsequently made Sachin his head quarters, and there he removed with his whole retinue. He acquired the dignity and title of Nawab by making large *nazarānas* to Shah Alam of Delhi. The Nawab Saheb built a splendid palace in Lachhpur on the Mindhola and there he passed the remainder of his life.

Balu Miyan died in 1802, and was succeeded by his son, Ibrahim Mahomed Yakut Khan. In 1816, he agreed to the proposal of consigning all the criminal cases within his territory to the jurisdiction of the British Courts of law for trial; but the agreement was not put into force, as the resolution did not embody all the terms of the original agreement. The result of his prodigality and his extravagant style of living was that the State was overburdened by large debts amounting to thirteen *lakhs* of rupees. In order to prevent the scandal and pay off the debt, the British Government interfered in 1835, and took over the administration of the eighteen villages with the exception of Sachin and Lachhpur. A pension of 1800 rupees was allowed to the Nawab for his personal expenses. The Nawab died in 1853, and his son, Abdul Karim Khan, was confirmed as the Nawab. By the year 1859, a debt of about eight *lakhs* of rupees was paid off and the unpaid liabilities amounted to only five *lakhs* of rupees. The Government resolved to remove the administration and restore the management to the Nawab. The Nawab was compelled to sign a definite engagement to pay 35,000 rupees each year from the 1st of June in discharge of the liabilities. The engagement was scrupulously observed by him during his life-time. In 1866 the Government granted him a *sanad* enabling him and his heirs, in cases of failure of natural heirs to the throne of Sachin, to adopt one in accordance with Mahomedan usage. The Nawab died in December 1869. He was succeeded by Ibrahim Mahmud Yakut Khan II., who died in 1873, after a short rule of four years.

After the death of Ibrahim Mahomed Yakut Khan, his eldest son, Abdul Kadar Khan, ascended the *gadi* in 1873, but he being a minor, the State was administered by an officer under the supervision of the Agent to H. E. the Governor of Bombay at Surat. In 1886, he was associated with a native gentleman in the administration of the State, but his incapacity rendered him quite incapable to carry on the administration. Signs of mental aberration supervening, the Nawab was required to abdicate the throne in favour of his minor son, Najaf Ali Khan, then aged 3 years in 1885. During the minority of the young Nawab the State is administered by the First Assistant Collector of Surat, with a native officer of approved capacity as the Diwan.

The Nawab of Sachin is entitled to a salute of 9 guns.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Sachin, Surat Agency; Bombay Presidency.



WADHWAN.

Area.—236 sq. miles. Population.—42,438.

Revenue.—4,25,000 rupees.

The rulers of Wadhwan are Jhala Rajputs, claiming their descent from the original family-stock of the Raj Saheb of Dhrangadra, and are styled "Thakore Sahebs."

Halwad was the former capital of the rulers of Dhrangadra. Chandra-sinhji ruled there till 1628. He left behind him six sons, (1) Prithirajji, who was born of the Sarvaiya Rani of Bhadli; (2) Ashkaranji; (3) Amar-sinhji, the son of the Jodhpur princess; (4) Abhayasinhji; (5) Ramsinhji, and (6) Ranoji. Of these, the heir-apparent was, during the life-time of his father, taken prisoner and carried to Ahmedabad by the Viceroy of Gujarat, where he died. His sons, Sartanji and Rajoji, proceeded to Bhadli. In 1628 on the death of Chandrasinhji, Sartanji *alias* SultANJI, the rightful heir, was superseded by his uncle, Ashkaranji. The former, with the support of Lakhoji, the Jam of Nawanagar, wrested from the Mahiyas and the Babarias, Wankaner and the neighbouring country, where he founded a separate kingdom. The younger brother, Rajoji, took possession of Wadhwan. It was customary with the rulers of Halwad to grant Wadhwan in appanage to the heir-apparent to the throne, and thus it had formed part of the estate of his father, Prithirajji. He took possession of it in 1630 and there set up an independent principality.

Rajoji, at the time of his death in 1643, had three sons, Sabalsinhji, Udayasinhji and Bhavsinhji; of these, Sabalsinhji came to the throne. They were all brave warriors. They accompanied Mohobat Khan, the Mahomedan Viceroy, to Surat in 1663, and were present there when it was sacked by Shiwaji, the founder of the Maratha supremacy in the Deccan, in the ensuing year. It is said that Sabalsinhji was treacherously put to death by his brother, Udayasinhji, in 1666. He held the *gadi* so basely usurped by him for fifteen years till his death in 1681. His son, Bhagatsinhji, succeeded him to the throne.

Bhavsinhji, the third son of Rajoji, who founded the *gadi* at Wadhwan, and the uncle of Bhagatsinhji, took up his residence first at Idar, his maternal home, and afterwards at Sawar in Malwa on his marriage with the daughter of the Thakore of that place.

Bhavsinhji had a spirited son, Madhavsinhji, whose presence was dreaded by his maternal aunt, as some day it might prove prejudicial to the interests of her son. She advised her husband to dismiss him from his court, to which, however, he did not give a ready hearing. Madhavsinhji, when he came to learn this, secretly left Sawar for Bundi. There he gained great distinction and in course of time became the commander-in-chief of the forces. In 1682, he was given the *jagir* of Nanta. When the ruler of Bundi was on his death-bed, he solemnly charged Madhavsinhji to take the utmost care of the infant prince; and right loyally he fulfilled the last behest of his late sovereign. The queen mother, however, regarded him as a menace to the existence of her son and secretly instigated the Arabs and the Sindhis to rise against him. Madhavsinhji repulsed the attack, but prudential considerations prevailed upon him and he left Bundi for Kotah. The prince of Kotah received him very cordially and permitted him to reside at his court; he did much to advance his interests by adding titles of honour, to his name, which placed him in the foremost rank among his courtiers. Success attended him here equally as elsewhere. He had four sons (1) Madansinh, who succeeded his father in his post, and whose son, Zalam-sinhji, founded the State of Jhalawad in Rajputana; the other three, Arjunsinh, Abhayasinh and Mansinh returned to Wadhwan. They seized upon the *gadi*, first clearing their way by taking the lives of the Chief, Bhagat-sinhji, and his sons. Arjunsinhji, the eldest among them, mounted the throne. His younger brother, Abhayasinhji, went to Chuda and set himself up independently there, whereas Mansinhji received several villages, including Jhamar and others.

Arjunsinhji was an intelligent young prince; the State prospered under him, by the acquisition of extensive tracts of land. He died in 1739. His queen, Dev Kunvarba, (the daughter of Amarsinhji Hada), mounted the funeral pyre. To commemorate this singular incident, a temple was erected to her memory near the cenotaph of the famous Ranakdevi, which bears the name of "Hadi Mata." It was prince Sabalsinhji, who raised that affectionate monument to his mother; and so great is the reverence and the sanctity of the temple that even now on all marriage occasions among the princes of Wadhwan and Chuda the newly married couple invariably resort to the shrine to make their obeisance. At the time of his death, Arjunsinhji had five sons, (1) Sabalsinhji II., who succeeded his father; (2) Sardarsinhji, to whom were given in appanage Vana and other villages, (3) Nanabhai, to whom were granted Dudharej and others, (4) Ramobhai, upon whom were

bestowed Kherali and others, and (5) Kashiaji, who received Gundiali and other villages. During the life-time of his father, when Sabalsinhji was residing at Nagnesh, he made an overt attack in 1734 on Kanpur, in which attempt, however, he had to turn back defeated. To avenge this audacity of the prince, that fire-eating Gaekwad, Damaji Rao, took Nagnesh by storm, made Sabal a prisoner and had him carried to Baroda. There he passed three years in captivity; at length on the death of his father, he purchased his liberty with a heavy ransom and was allowed to return to Wadhwān.

In 1765 Sabalsinhji II. expired, leaving three sons behind him, of whom the eldest, Chandrasinhji, came to the throne; the other two, Lakhaji and Patabhai, received Varod and Rajpur respectively. During his regime, a Lohana of Memka, a village subject to Wadhwān, went to Rozka in Bhal to dispose of his *Jhalars* (a species of pulse), when Mepji, a Girasia of the place, humorously asked him, 'What price each of your Jhala would fetch?' the Lohana retorted 'One Jhala for every hundred Bhalias.' At this Mepji was deeply incensed and the Lohana received a sound cudgelling, and had all his goods forfeited. He came to Wadhwān and lodged his complaint before his sovereign. The indignity thus offered to his house was beyond all forbearance and he meditated a deadly revenge. After the lapse of a few days, he marched at the head of 2,000 horse against Morshia, a village under Rozka, and plundered it; he ordered his carts to be loaded up with the wooden materials of the demolished buildings and set out on his way back to Wadhwān. The intelligence of this raid was conveyed by Lakhaji and Ramoji, the sons of Mepji, to their brother-in-law, Harbhamji of Limbdi, who came to their rescue with his 1,500 picked men, consisting of 700 horse and 800 foot. At this time Bhagwant Rao, the Maratha viceroy, had encamped at Limbdi. He, too, accompanied Harbhamji with his 12,000 horse. By the time the shades of evening had fallen they came up to the banks of the Bhadar. Chandrasinhji obstructed their further progress; but when he saw the immense odds against him, he thought that it would be a great disgrace if the enemy succeeded in redeeming the timber carts. He therefore ordered them to be burnt. At this moment an Arab Jamadar, Gorimbho, came to Chandrasinhji and disclosed to him a clever stratagem. He proposed to surprise the canons of the enemy with his five hundred Makranis and taking advantage of such a diversion, the Prince was to give them battle. It received a ready approval from Chandrasinhji, who now prepared to march on foot with his sword and buckler. His lieutenants, however, explained to him that it was far better to fight according to some

pre-concerted plan than to spend their energies and lives in a fool hardy and vain glorious attempt. They then set out on horse-back to charge the enemy and the Arab Jamadar went forth in the direction of the guns. When the enemy saw through their tactics, they opened a broad-cast fire on them; they were then fording the river; and the balls passed over their heads without doing them any injury. The Jamadar and his followers succeeded in surprising the guns; the gunners precipitately fled, leaving the guns to the victors as the prize of their gallantry. Simultaneously Chandrasinhji attacked the forces of Harbhamji and dispersed them. At the close of the action, Bhagwant Rao claimed the cannons for the Gaekwad Sarkar, which were accordingly surrendered to him. Harbhamji thence retired to Limbdi and the Maratha Viceroy proceeded to Baroda.

Chandrasinhji was married to Khushal Kunvarba, a princess of the junior Waghela branch of Pethapur. A son was born to them, named Prithirajji, more familiarly known as Pathabhai. When he succeeded his father in 1778, he was only 19 years old. He raised a canopy over the site where the remains of his father were consigned to fire. The year of his coronation saw the death of Prince Harbhamji. His son, Harisinhji, ascended the throne of Limbdi. Fully bent on continuing his paternal feud, he set out at the head of 500 horse and two hundred foot. He divided his forces into three detachments; one of which he stationed on the banks of the river Khari, three miles from Wadhwan; the second, he posted near the Kerala and Paliavali ponds. He opened hostilities by advancing with but twenty-five horsemen towards Wadhwan, slaying a poor cultivator at its gate and doing other sundry damages. At this juncture, fourteen mounted *savars* of Prithirajji, who were patrolling through the streets came up there. They opened their fire on them, killing five and dispersing the rest, who fled away and joined the Kerala detachment. When this incident was reported to Prithi, he, with his 300 cavalry and 200 infantry, fell upon the enemy and beat them back. The second encounter with the enemy was on the Khari, where Harisinhji had taken up his stand. Here the maternal uncle of Prithiraj passed through the Limbdi forces. Seated on his splendid mare, he was hotly pursued by the enemy, who overtook him and cut him to pieces. At the end of this, both the forces disappeared from the field.

Prithirajji like his father protected the interests of his State by valiantly overcoming the enemy and thus gained the love and esteem of his subjects. His martial skill procured him the appellation of 'Pathabhai, the bold,' or 'Pathabhai, the warrior.'

In 1807 again a goat became the exciting cause of a fierce family feud among the Jhalas. The bards narrate the incident as follows:—Gujarveda was a village under Dhrangadra jurisdiction, three miles from Khoda, another village on the borders of Wadhwan. Once upon a time when military posts were stationed at both these places, the Mahomedan garrison of Gujarveda, went to Khoda on the *Bakri Idu* holiday, and purchased a goat from a shepherd but paid him no money. When the shepherd complained of their conduct to the officer in charge of the station, he went to Gujarveda and forcibly brought back the roasted mutton. When the details of this outrage were reported to Amarsinhji, he grew furious and boldly determined to take an adequate revenge. An attack upon Wadhwan was at once resolved upon and Harisinhji of Limbdi, Vikramajit of Sayla and Hathisinhji of Chuda were all requested to join him in his expedition. The call was no sooner made than it was responded to. At this time the Prince of Limbdi urged Prithirajji to surrender. For, added he, 'who ever is doubtful of the issue of a struggle with Hanuman ? No man of prudence would ever invite messengers of death to his place ! What is done is done, but beware, that your pertinacity does not cost you your kingdom.'

These words pierced the heart of the bold Prithi like shafts of steel. He mustered his troops and began alternately to plunder villages under Dhrangadra and Limbdi. He maintained his auxiliary forces at his own expense for only one day and then they shifted for themselves. Now and then small skirmishes took place between the contending factions but with no decisive result. At length Prithirajji was compelled to seek shelter behind the walls of Wadhwan. The enemy besieged the fortress and succeeded in effecting a breach in the walls. At this moment through the intercession of the *Bhats* and *charans*, the advantage obtained by the besiegers was not followed up by any other act of hostility. By that time, however, out of the sixty villages, subject to Wadhwan, all with the exception of four were destroyed by the enraged foes. This quarrel cost Dhrangadra one *lakh* of rupees, Limbdi, fifty thousand, and Sayla and Chuda, ten thousand rupees each.

Prince Jalamsinhji succeeded his father in 1807. At that time he was an infant, aged only a year and a quarter ; and the State-affairs were, therefore, managed by his mother, Bai Rajba. Next year, when Col. Walker visited Kathiawad to settle the various amounts of tribute to be paid to the

Maratha government by the different Native States, this Jalamsinhji was reigning at Wadhwan. The greater portion of the territory of Wadhwan then lay desolate owing to the ravages of war. Col. Walker settled the amounts of *jamma* (tribute) to be paid to the Peshwa, the *sukhadi* (sweetmeat) cess, agreed to be paid to the Ahmedabad government, and the *Zortalbi* cess, levied by the Nawabs of Junagarh. The amount of compensation to be paid by Wadhwan for exercising jurisdiction over certain villages, situate within the Ahmedabad Zillah, was also fixed. The Queen Dowager, Bai Rajba, proved a beneficent ruler; she repaired the city walls, restored peace and prosperity, where shortly before everything seemed dreary and deserted, and also quieted the enemy.

Jalamsinhji, just when he reached that age of man-hood, when a man becomes fit to take up the management of the State, was snatched away by the ruthless hand of Death in 1827. Rajsinhji, his son, was placed on the throne. Born in 1826, he like his father, was a mere infant at the time of his accession. Bai Rajba continued to administer the State till 1832; when the question as to the guardianship of the infant arose between her and Baji Rajba, the mother of Rajsinhji. At length Baji Rajba succeeded in compelling her antagonist to leave Wadhwan and withdraw to Dhrangadra. Baji Rajba, thus left unopposed, conducted the state-affairs on behalf of her son. At this time the Political Agent of Kathiawad placed a military post at Wadhwan to preserve peace and tranquillity. Bai Rajba then proceeded to Rajkot and claimed to be restored to the guardianship of the infant prince, but without success. When she saw that there was no hope of any support from the Agency, she returned to Dhrangadra, and in 1833, led an attack on Wadhwan at the head of the Jat and other Rajput tribes. The matter was reported to the Political Agent by the officer in charge the military station, but no notice was taken of the insult thus offered to the British supremacy. After the lapse of a few months Bai Rajba left Wadhwan and resided at Lathi and Limbdi, whence she returned after a short absence. She was then reconciled to her lot, and passed the rest of her days under her rival Bai Rajba until the latter's death, which took place in 1851.

Rajsinhji had married Naniba, the daughter of the chief of Khevalia, a junior branch of Morbi. She gave birth to a son, named Chandrasinhji. The child was entrusted to the care of Baji Rajba, the mother of Rajsinhji, who took him to Nagnesh and resided there with the infant prince.

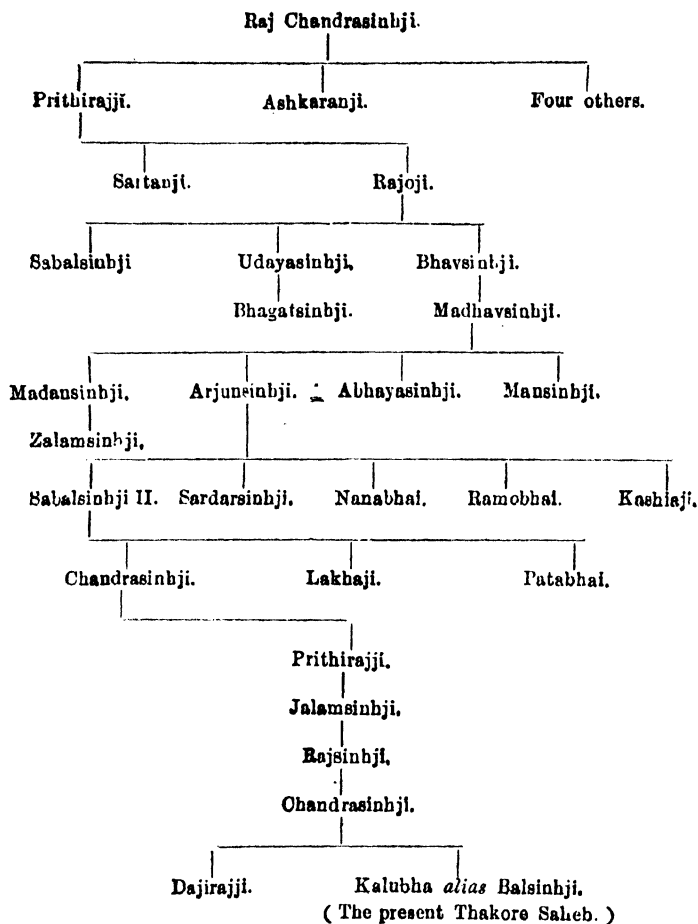
In 1857, Chandrasinhji took the hand of the fair Princess, Baji Rajba, the daughter of Jayasinhji of Dhrol, in marriage ; the royal wedding was celebrated at Palitana, as the bride's mother had taken up her abode with her brother, Pratapsinhji, owing to some disagreement with her husband. But the felicity of the newly married Prince was overshadowed by gloom. Death carried off his fair companion, and left him a widower at a comparatively young age. He was, however, soon again joined in wedlock by his marrying Maji Rajba, the daughter of the Waghela Thakore of Boru. She gave birth to Dajirajji in 1861. Next year, Chandrasinhji sank to an early grave. In 1874 the old Baji Rajba again made an attempt to keep Rajsinhji under her control. The matter was carried up to the Government and her case was ably argued out by an English Barrister ; but the Political Agent decided against her and she lost her case.

Rajsinhji, upon his death in 1875, was succeeded by his grandson, Dajirajji. Being of a tender age he was sent to the Rajkumar College at Rajkot. There he received sound education in English and the Vernacular languages. In 1881, when he attained the age of majority he was entrusted with the sole administration of his State. During his nonage the administration was conducted by an officer appointed by the Political Agent.

Dajirajji, after a short reign of four years, expired on the 5th of May 1885, at the early age of 24, in the very flower of his youth. The Thakore Saheb, during his short regime, won the hearts of his subjects and of those who came in contact with him by the introduction of several reforms and the carrying out of great works of public utility. He was very fond of travelling abroad ; and, in 1883, he undertook a voyage to Europe with Mr. Warden, the Assistant Political Agent of Kathiawad. Next year after his return from Europe, he selected for his bride, the highly intelligent daughter of the Honorable Raja Gajpati Rao of Madras. As he died without issue, he was succeeded by his younger brother, Kalubha *alias* Balsinhji, who is the present Thakore Saheb of Wadhwan. He received a *sanad* in 1890, conferring upon him the right of adoption.

The Thakore Saheb of Wadhwan is a second class Chief in Kathiawad and has criminal jurisdiction to the extent of passing capital sentence for murder and such other grave offences committed by his subjects, without obtaining the sanction of the Political Agent. He enjoys full civil powers and is entitled to a salute of 9 guns.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Wadhwan, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

WANKANER.

Area.—414 sq. miles. Population.—39,329.

Revenue.—2,31,000 rupees.

The Native State of Wankaner is bounded on the north by the territory of Dhrangadra; on the east, by the territory of Rajkot; and on the west, by Morbi and the Taluka of Jalia (Devani).

The Chief of Wankaner is a Jhala Rajput and is descended from the same stock as the Raj of Dhrangadra. Chandrasinhji, twenty seventh in descent from Harpal, the founder of the Jhala kingdom in Jhalawad, ascended the throne of Halwad (present Dhrangadra) in 1584. He had six sons, Prithirajji, Ashkaranji, Amarsinhji, Abhayasinhji, Ramsinhji and Ranoji. Once it so happened that Adoji, the land-holder of Shiani, having quarrelled with the Moslem Suba of Ahmedabad, came and pitched his tents on the out-skirts of Halwad. A disagreement arising between him and Prithirajji on a trivial matter the heir-apparent made preparations to plunder his camp. Raj Chandrasinhji meanwhile came upon the spot and remonstrated with his son not to disturb Adoji, who was lying there under his shelter. Prithirajji displeased with his father, went at once to Wadhwan, which was given to him by way of maintenance. He began plundering the neighbouring villages. He also looted the Imperial treasure conveyed from Junagarh to Ahmedabad. The Suba of Gujarat issued proclamations for the capture of the culprits offering a lucrative reward to the successful captors. He also dispatched an army consisting of 2,000 men against Prithirajji, who was staying at Wadhwan. The officer commanding the troops treacherously apprehended Prithirajji and conveyed him to Ahmedabad. From that place he appears never to have returned.

When Raj Chandrasinhji died in 1628, his eldest son, Prithirajji, as mentioned above, was absent from Halwad. His younger brother, Ashkaranji, seized upon the throne, setting aside the claims of his nephews, Sartanji and Rajoji, the sons of Prithirajji.

When Sartanji *alias* Sultanji was thus superseded by Ashkaranji, he with his brother Rajoji went to Bhadli, the maternal home of their father, and remained there. From that place Sartanji besought the assistance of Jam Lakhoji of Nawanganagar and conquered the territory adjoining

Wankaner from the hands of the Mahiyas and the Babarias. He afterwards established himself at Wankaner* and founded an independent principality.

Sartanji gave the village of Dewli to his younger brother, Rajoji. Afterwards he took possession of Wadhwan and established his government there. Wadhwan as mentioned above was given to his father by way of maintenance. Rajoji took independent possession of it and imitated his elder brother in setting up a new government at that place.

Sartanji from his seat of government made many inroads upon Halwad, but without success. Ashkaranji, who had usurped the Halwad throne, was murdered by his younger brother, Amarsinhji, who occupied the throne. Sartanji carried on his predatory excursions against Amarsinhji, the Raj of Halwad, whereupon the Raj, to preserve tranquillity within his dominions, took up his station near Mathak, a village situated exactly on the boundary line between the two rival States. His allies, the Parmar of Muli and the Kathis, drove away herds of cattle from one of the villages under Wankaner, but Sartanji soon pursued them, brought back the herds and drove the intruders beyond his territory. They were, however, soon after reinforced by an army under Amarsinhji of Halwad and a pitched battle ensued near the village of Bhimgunda, in which Sartanji of Wankaner was killed (1634). The spot where the battle was fought and the valiant Sartanji fell is even now known by the name of 'Sartanji's Run' (battle field of Sartanji). A small temple and a monumental stone in honour of the heroes who were slain are to be seen there even at the present day. The wife of Sartanji immolated herself on the funeral pyre.

Raj Sartanji had two sons, Mansinhji and Ramsinhji. Mansinhji the elder succeeded his father, while to Ramsinhji were granted the appanages of Lunsariu and Bokarthambhu. Raj Mansinhji also continued his forays against Halwad, but with no better success.

Raj Mansinhji died in 1658, leaving behind him eight sons: Rayasinhji, Bhimji, Bhanji, Agarsinhji, Viramji, Varsoji, Ratanji, and Hardasji. Rayasinhji, the eldest, succeeded to the throne, while to Bhimji and Bhanji were granted the estates of Kankot and Vaghasia respectively. Kherwa, Devli and a portion of Sardharka were distributed between Agarsinhji and

* It is said that the descendants of Sartanji even to-day assert their claim to the throne of Halwad and for this they still observe one peculiar feature by way of pledge. At the time of the marriage they do not take all the necessary rounds but say that they would do so after regaining Halwad.

Viramji. A portion of Kherwa was given to Varsoji and Ratanji jointly. Hardasji had died long ago without any issue.

Raj Rayasinhji dying in 1679 was succeeded by Chandrasinhji, the elder of his two sons. To the younger, Veroji, was given the village of Kotaria. When Chandrasinhji ascended the throne of Wankaner, Halwad was held by Raj Jaswantsinhji. Maharaja Jaswantsinhji of Jodhpur, who was about this time appointed Suba of Gujarat, by the Emperor of Dehli, marched upon Halwad at the instance of his wife, who was the daughter of Chandrasinhji. The Raj of Halwad unable to withstand the attack fled towards Varahi. The Suba seized upon Halwad and bestowed it upon Babi Nazar Ali Khan. He ruled there for six years. It was taken from him by Raj Chandrasinhji, who remained master of it for three years, when at last Jaswantsinhji obtained in 1682 from the Emperor a *sanad* (permit) for the possession of Halwad and the adjacent Salt-pans. He then reconquered it from Chandrasinhji.

Raj Chandrasinhji died in 1721 leaving behind him four sons, of whom the eldest Prithirajji succeeded him ; while Dhuwa was granted to Keshrisinhji and Varsoji and Ghiawad to Tejoji.

Prithirajji died in 1728 without any issue. He was succeeded by his brother Keshrisinhji. It was the intention of Jam Tamachi of Nawanagar to set aside the claims of Keshrisinhji and set his younger brother Varsoji on the throne of Wankaner. He, however, failed in his attempt as the elder brother received the support of his cousin Keshrisinhji of Wadhwan.

Kesharisinhji dying in 1749 was succeeded by his only son, Bharoji. The new Raj was endued with a brave heart and zealous spirits. The Kathis of Koti Kundni were overrunning the territory of Wankaner and Bharoji obtaining the assistance of the famous Amarji, Diwan of Junagarh, put a stop to their pillage by closely pursuing them and dispersing their bands. It is also said that he succeeded in obtaining possession of Halwad too, but it remained in his hands only for a very short time. Bharoji once sacked the village of Sajdiali under Sardhar and reduced it to submission, while he defeated Lakhoji *alias* Bawoji, the Thakore, of Rajkot.

Raj Bharoji died in 1784, leaving behind him four sons, Rayasinhji Lakhoji, Jiwandji and Samatsinhji. The eldest Rayasinhji had died during the life-time of his father, but had left a son, named Keshrisinhji. It was

therefore this Kesharisinhji II., who ascended the throne of Wankaner. His uncles Lakhoji and Jiwanji died childless, while to Samatsinhji was granted the appanage of Arni Timba. Keshrisinhji II. had also two brothers, Waghoji and Abhayasinhji. To them he granted the estates of Jali and Jetpur. Abhayasinhji dying without issue, his appanage of Jali was resumed by the State by way of escheat.

Raj Kesharisinhji died in 1787, and was succeeded by his only son, Chandrasinhji. He was generally known by the name of Dosoji. The Kathis used to molest his subjects and often plundered his territory. He made a name for himself by subduing them all. He plundered the village of Sudamra by way of retaliating the indignity offered by these marauders, who had the boldness to drive away herds of cattle belonging to Najo Dhandhal of Bhimora. Raj Chandrasinhji once accompanied Prithirajji of Wadhwan to Ahmedabad. While returning he had a quarrel with the retinue of Bacha Jamadar of H. H. the Gaekwad. The contest grew so fierce that several men on both sides lay dead and torrents of blood flowed. Isab Khan, the nephew of the Jamadar, was also killed in the fray. By way of compensation for his nephew's death the Jamadar was granted the village of Mesaria.

In 1807-8, Colonel Walker, Resident of Baroda, arrived in Kathiawad accompanied by Babaji Apaji, Diwan to H. H. the Gaekwad, to settle the amounts of tribute to be paid by the various chiefs of the Province. With the amounts of other States they also determined the sum to be annually paid by Wankaner.

Raj Chandrasinhji died in 1839, leaving behind him three sons, of whom the eldest, Wakhatsinhji succeeded to the throne. The second son, Vajerajji, died without issue, while to the third Jalamsinhji were granted the estates of Kerala and Rajavadla. Wakhatsinhji was a prince, who had a religious turn of mind. He visited Somnath, Dwarka and other sacred places and there spent large sums of money in charities. He had seven sons: Jaswantsinhji, Dansinhji, Veroji, Khengarji, Dewoji, Dipsinhji, and Karansinhji. The eldest Jaswantsinhji, however, died in 1844, during his life-time, leaving behind him a son, named Banesinhji. Raj Wakhatsinhji provided his sons with suitable appanages. He gave Khijadia and Vanjhora to Dansinhji, while a moiety of Panchasia and Ranakpur was given to Veroji. A similar moiety of Sindhavadar and Kalavri was given to Khengarji, Dewoji received the remaining moiety of Panchasia and

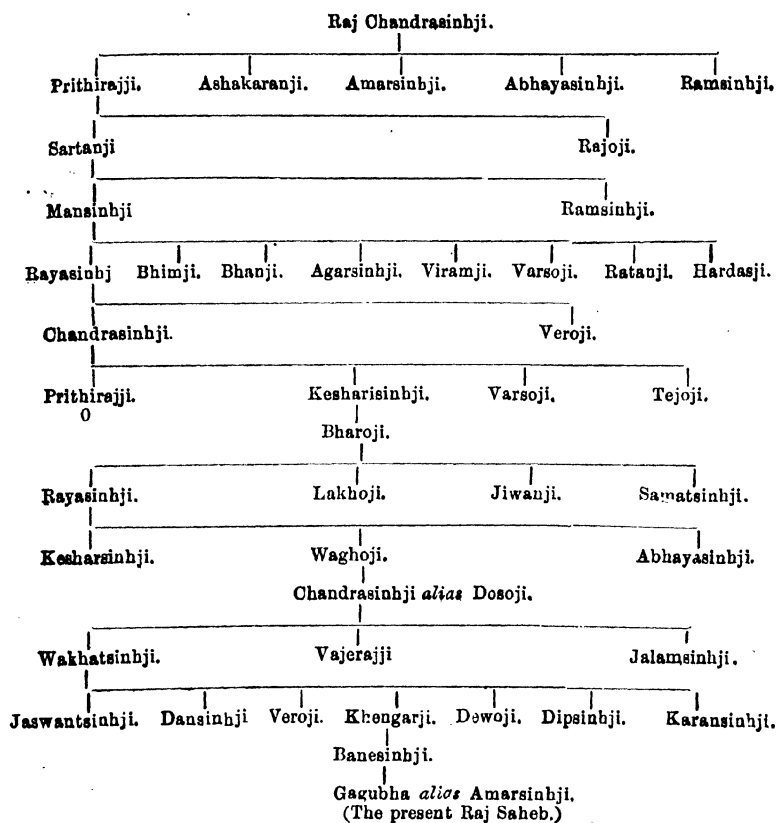
Ranakpur, while to Dipsinhji was in like manner granted the remaining moiety of Sindhavadar and Kalavri. The last Karansinhji is said to have obtained nothing.

Raj Wakhatsinhji died in 1860, and was succeeded by his grand-son, Banesinhji, the son of Jaswantsinhji. When H. E. Sir Seymour Fitzgerald, Governor of Bombay, visited Rajkot in 1870, Raj Banesinhji went there to pay his respects to the noble visitor. In the procession formed at Rajkot the Raj rode on a huge elephant with Colonel Watson. The animal got infuriated, attacked and threw down the elephant ridden by the Thakore Saheb of Morbi. Fortunately all escaped unhurt. Raj Banesinhji died in the month of June 1881 at the age of 39. He was a very liberal prince and contributed greatly to the material prosperity of his State. He had married Janiba, the daughter of Jadeja Vibhaji of Sajanpur, a *Bhayad* of the Thakore of Morbi. By this lady he had a son named Gagubha *alias* Amarsinhji, who was only six years old at the time of his father's demise. During Gagubha's minority the administration is carried on by Mr. Ganpat Rao N. Laud under the direct supervision of the Political Agent of Kathiawad. Banesinhji had also married the daughter of Wakhatsinhji, the Parmar chief of Muli, by whom he had two daughters. The Raj Saheb received a *sanad* of adoption in 1890.

The Raj Saheb is a second class Chief in Kathiawad and has criminal jurisdiction to pass capital sentence upon any one of his subjects convicted of murder and such other grave offences, without obtaining the sanction of the Political Agent. He enjoys full civil powers and is entitled to a salute of 9 guns.



Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Wankaner, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency



PART II.

MINOR STATES, CHIEFDOMS AND JAGIRS.



AGAR.

Area.—9 sq. miles. Population.—500.

Revenue.—12,609 rupees.

Thakore Gambhir Khan, by caste a Molesalam Girasia,* is the present Chief. He pays Rs. 186 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda, as a tribute; through the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha. He has no civil powers and in criminal cases he is empowered to fine Rs. 10. only. The population of this State consists chiefly of Bhils.

Residence.—Agar; Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

AGRA-BARKHERA.

Area.—unknown. Population.—7,406.

Revenue.— 7,000 rupees.

In the year 1818, a Settlement was effected between the Thakore of Agra-Barkhera and Thakore Nirbhai Sinh, by which it was arranged that the former should, every year, receive from the estate of Kurwai a fixed allowance (Tankah) of Rs. 300, through the Political Agent of Bhopal.

* The Molesalam Girasias were formerly Rajputs by caste, but were then perverted to the faith of Islam by the oppression of Mahmoed Begada. Since their pollution these converts have been observing the Mahomedan creed. They have, however, still retained some traces of their original Hindu religion. At the commencement of their nuptial ceremonies, they propitiate the god Ganpati, whom they worship with pious devotion; still they celebrate the *Nika* marriage according to the dictates of the Koran. After their death their corpses are disposed of by burial, and not by cremation amongst the Hindus.

The Thakore, besides this, holds a grant of twelve villages in the territory of H. H. Maharaja Sindhia. For this holding he is to pay to Sindhia an yearly rent of Rs. 1,001. The family also held a small fief, consisting of 28 villages, within the district of Sironj in the British territory, but this, together with the grant in Sindhia's dominions, was confiscated in 1857, on account of the then ruling Thakore, Chhatra Sal, espousing the cause of the mutineers against the English Government. The *Sanads* under which the family enjoyed the different grants, were also lost in the general upheaval, but after sometime they were discovered, and they have since been recognised and verified by the Government of H. H. Maharaja Sindhia.

The Thakore holds several *Sanads*, under each of which he enjoys distinct rights and privileges. Thus by *Sanad* No. 121 he holds certain hereditary village rights. By another *Sanad*, No. 122, he enjoys the income of three villages, granted to the family to defray the *Palkhi* (Palanquin) expense. By a third *Sanad*, No. 123, he draws an annuity of Rs. 75 from the three villages in the Shamshabad district. Similarly he gets an allowance of Rs. 444 every year by *Sanad* No. 124, and by *Sanad* No. 125 all the rights and privileges conferred on the Thakore by Daulat Rao Sindhia have simply been confirmed by Jankoji Sindhia. By *Sanad* No. 126 are granted five villages on an *Istimarari* tenure of Rs. 1,501. After Chhatra Sal came Balwant Sinh Thakore, to whom the Paramount power in July 1859 restored all his lost possessions, including the villages lying within Sindhia's territories. The Thakore thenceforward has been placed under the immediate supervision and control of the British Political Agent. Thakore Balwant Sinh died, a decrepit old man, on the 14th of December 1891. He was succeeded by Baldev Sinh, then only 18 years old, with the previous sanction of the Government of India. During the management of Baldev Sinh the small Thakurate was burdened with heavy debts, and with a view to pay off these old liabilities the estate has been placed under the direct management of the Political Agent.

Genealogical tree.

Chhatra Sal.

Balwant Sinh.

Baldev Sinh.

(The present Thakore.)

Residence.—Agra-Barkhera, Bhopal Agency; Central India.

AIAVEJ.

Area—7 sq. miles Population—994.

Revenue—5,200 rupees.

Hakaji and Shamlaji, the present Talukdars, belong to the Sarvaiya Rajput caste. They have no civil and criminal powers. They pay a tribute of Rs. 282 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda, and to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh, as a *Zortalbi Hakka*, Rs. 8. The Talukdars have two independent tribute payers.

Residence.—Aiavej, Und Sarvaiya, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

AJRAODA.

The Thakore of this State belongs to the Puar caste. Nahar Sinh was the Thakore when the settlement was effected. Daulat Sinh, aged 44 years, is the present Chief. He succeeded to the *gadi* in 1859. He receives Rs. 190 from H. H. Maharaja Sindhia, and Rs. 146 from H. H. Maharaja Holkar as a tankah. The tankah from Sindhia is paid through the Political Agent of Western Malwa, and that from Holkar, direct.

Residence.—Ajraoda, Western Malwa Agency; Central India.

AKADIA.

Area—2 sq. miles. Population—128.

Revenue—1,000 rupees.

Amar Sinh, Nag Sinh, Meheram Sinh, and Ganga Sinh, the present Talukdars belong to the Chavda Rajput caste. None of them enjoys civil and criminal powers. They pay a tribute of Rs. 129 to the British Government, and Rs. 25 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as a *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Taluka has four independent tribute payers.

Residence.—Akadia, North-Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

AKALKOT.

Area.—498 sq. miles. Population.—75,774.

Revenue.—2,75,001 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north, east, and south, by the Nizam's Dominions, and on the west by the British District of Sholapur.

The Chief of Akalkot is a Maratha of the Bhonsle family and is a first class Sirdar of the Deccan. In the beginning of the 17th century it formed part of the territories of the reigning sovereign of Ahmadnagar. Shiwaji, the celebrated founder of the Maratha Empire, died in 1680, leaving behind him a son, Sambhaji, who was invited to the Imperial Court by his inveterate foe, Emperor Aurangzeb. He repaired to the capital, accompanied by his son, Shiwaji II, better known as Shahu, but dying there in 1689, his son, Shahu, was thrown into prison by the scheming Padshah, but immediately after the death of the Padshah, in 1707, the Maratha prince was restored to liberty by his successor, Bahadur Shah. During his absence at Delhi, the administration at Satara was carried on by Tara Bai, the widow of Raja Ram. When she learnt that Shahu was marching towards the Deccan to regain his lost patrimony, she made strenuous efforts to oppose him and keep him out of Satara. On his way to the capital Shahu was attacked by Sayaji Patel of Parud, who espoused the cause of Tara Bai, and fell upon Shahu with his band of followers. The Patel was defeated and slain in the encounter. His widow sought protection from the lineal descendant of Shiwaji, and placing her three little children at the feet of the Prince, implored his forgiveness. Naturally of a kind and humane disposition, Shahu was touched with pity at the sight of the innocent fatherless lads, and expressed his willingness to take with him Ranoji, the eldest of the three children, and bring him up with paternal care and affection. This was all that the distressed woman wanted, and Shahu gave her in *Inam* the villages of Parud, Shivri and Thana. The widow readily gave her consent to the proposed arrangement. Ranoji was a precocious child of ten years and his fine look beaming with natural intelligence won him the favour of his patron Shahu Maharaja. While marching onward from Parud, Shahu's march was often hindered by the resistance offered by the aboriginal Bhils. On one of these occasions the nominal command of the detachment, employed to disperse the lawless mob, was entrusted to the boy Ranoji. The Bhils were defeated and put to the rout, and the Raja looked upon this victory as a good omen of our young leader's future career. His name was changed to Fattch Sinh (Victory), and he became a constant associate of Shahu at the Court of Satara. In 1707, Shahu Raja conferred on him the family surname of Bhonsle, and began to look upon him as a member of the Royal family. Subsequently he was granted the estate of Akalkot, which is still held by his descendants. Fattch Sinh figured prominently in the subsequent

campaigns against Kolhapur, Trichinopoli, Bundelkhand, and Bhagnagar. When Shahu died in 1749, Fattah Sinh retired to take charge of his hereditary estate of Akalkot, where he died in 1760. His two widows Ahalya Bai and Guja Bai became *Satis*, and he was succeeded by his adopted son, Shahaji Raje I *alias* Baba Saheb. After his death the *Jagir* was held by his elder son, Fattah Sinh II *alias* Aba Saheb, the younger, Tulaji, being provided with the estate of Kurla in the Satara District. The Chiefdom of Akalkot first came in contact with the British Government in 1820, when the East India Company restored to Fattah Sinh his possessions, which had come into the hands of the English, along with the other Satara territories. Fattah Sinh II. dying in 1822, was succeeded by his son Maloji Raje I. *alias* Baba Saheb, who, dying in 1828, was succeeded by his son, Shahaji Raje II. *alias* Appa Saheb, a mere boy of eight years. During his minority the State of Akalkot was managed by the Raja of Satara. In 1830, a rising took place headed by Shankar Rao, and a British Contingent was soon despatched from Sholapur to put it down. The rebels mustered strong and offered a stubborn resistance and refused to disperse till a general indemnity was granted by the British Resident. The result of this insurrection was that the management was taken away from the hands of the Raja of Satara, and a British officer named Captain Jameson was appointed the Regent of the State. When Satara was annexed in 1849, the Chief of Akalkot transferred his allegiance to the British Crown. Shahji Raje II. breathed his last in 1857, and was succeeded by Maloji Raja II. *alias* Buwa Saheb, who was born in 1838. This Chief was deposed in 1866, and the State was taken under the management of the British Government on account of his misrule. Maloji Raja II. *alias* Buwa Saheb died in 1870, leaving the patrimony to his infant son, who was born in 1867, and named Shahaji Raja III. *alias* Baba Saheb, the present Chief of Akalkot. During his minority the management of the State was carried on by British officials. In 1881, the Chief married Lakshmi Bai Saheb, daughter of Dhaibar Killedar of Baroda, and grand-daughter of H. H. the late Maharaja Khande Rao, Gaekwad of Baroda. In 1891, on Baba Saheb's attaining majority, the management of the State was made over to him. He was educated at the Rajaram College, Kolhapur. A portion of the funds of the State is yearly set apart for the construction of public works; and a dispensary has been established at the town of Akalkot. The Chief of Akalkot has Judicial inferior powers and is not entitled to a salute of guns.

THE HIND RAJASTHAN.

Genealogical tree.

Ranoji *alias* Fatteh Sinh.

Shahaji Raje I

Fatteh Sinh II.

Tulaji.

Maloji Raje I.

Shahaji Raje II.

Fatteh Sinh.

Maloji Raje II.

Shahaji Raja III.

(The present Raja.)

Residence.—Akalkot, Sholapur District, Bombay Presidency.

ALAMPUR.

Area.—3 sq. miles. Population—600.

Revenue.—4,000 rupees.

Jethibhai, the present Talukdar, belongs to the Gohel Rajput caste. He pays a tribute of Rs. 1,235 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda, and Rs. 162 as a *Zortalbi Hakka* to H. H. the Nāwab of Junagarh. The Talukdar has one independent tribute payer. The capital of the State is Alampur and is 4 miles distant from the Ningala Railway Station. No civil and criminal power is granted to him.

Residence—Alampur, Gohelwad, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

ALIPURA.

Area,—69 sq. miles. Population.—15,224.

Revenue.—30,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north and east by Hamirpur District, on the south by Garauli, and on the west by Jhansi.

This small State owes its existence to a grant of certain lands, conferred by Hindupat, the grandson of Hardi Sah, upon one Achal Sinh, the original founder. The same grant was continued in perpetuity to Pratap Sinh, the son of Achal Sinh, by Ali Bahadur; and it was this Pratap Sinh, who was in possession of the estate in 1808, at the time of the establishment of the British Paramount power in that district. A *Sanad* was issued by them to Pratap Sinh, confirming him in his possession of the estate of Alipura.

Pratap Sinh died, leaving four sons behind him—Pancham Sinh, Tilok Sinh, Jawahir Sinh and Kishor Sinh. The eldest, Pancham Sinh, ascended the *gadi* of Alipura. In 1835 Pancham Sinh, without first obtaining the sanction of the Supreme Government, divided the entire *Jagir* between himself and his three brothers, but this partition was not ratified by the British Government. Consequently, in 1846, when Kishor Sinh died, leaving behind him a grandson, Bakhat Sinh, the latter was not allowed to succeed to the separate share of his grandfather, which was then re-annexed to the corpus of the whole estate. Bakhat Sinh was only assigned some lands, yielding an annual income of 3,000 rupees, as a

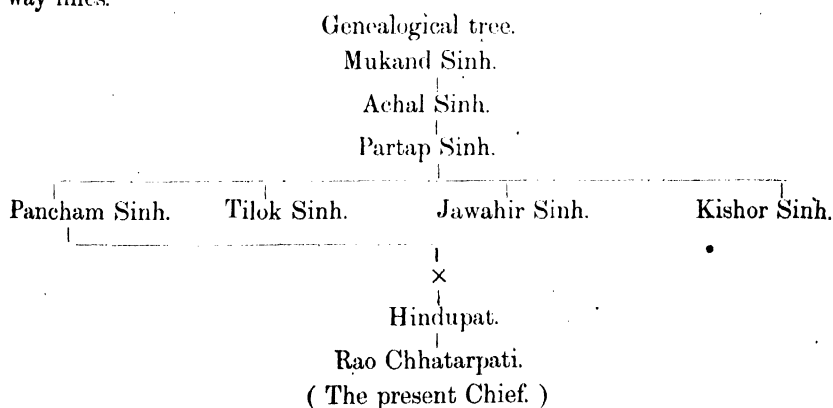
personal compensation for the loss he thereby suffered. This minute subdivision of the estate, effected by Pancham Sinh, had led to many internal disturbances; whereupon it was resolved by the British Government that no *Jagir*, held under a *Sanad* from them, should, without their previous consent, be partitioned among any subsharers so as to reduce it to a mere *Zamindari*. Three years later, in 1849, Jawahir Sinh died, having adopted as his heir one of Bakhat Sinh's sons. Bakhat Sinh, who deemed himself injured by the resumption of his grandfather's share, had from the first resented the annexation of his inheritance to the *Jagir*. He now seized the share of Jawahir Sinh, and took up arms against the *Jagirdar* of Alipura. He was, however, forced to yield, and surrender the estate of Jawahir Sinh. He finally retired on an annual pension of 3,000 rupees from the *Jagir* of Alipura.

In the year 1852, another arrangement was effected, by which several estates, yielding an annual income of 6,000 rupees, were settled upon the descendants of Kishor Sinh. This, however, was subsequently altered, and a cash allowance of the same amount was substituted in its place. Meanwhile Tilok Sinh expired, and in his case, his share of the *Jagir* was allowed to be bequeathed to his two sons. This incident afforded Bakhat Sinh a new ground for complaint, and he again, rose up in arms to demand justice for himself. He was, however, told that sufficient provision had already been made for his claims; and it was also decided that the *Jagirdar* of Alipura should be permitted to resume the portion of Tilok Sinh, after providing for the proper maintenance of his family. Bakhat Sinh was by no means satisfied with the above decision, and thus disaffected, he joined the ranks of the turbulent rebels at the time of the great Mutiny in 1857. In 1865, he surrendered himself to the British, and was tried on several charges of murder and dacoity; but he was acquitted from them all, for want of legal evidence against him. He was, however, kept under strict surveillance at Gwalior, lest he should disturb the peace of Alipura and the surrounding regions. In 1868, the cash allowance, of the amount of 6,000 rupees, was reapportioned between the several members of Kishor Sinh's family; and according to established usage, Jagat Raj, the eldest son of Kishor Sinh, received a larger share than his two brothers, while Bakhat Sinh, the eldest son of Jagat Raj, was also given a larger portion than the other younger members of the family. These claimants have since died, and their heirs are now receiving half the portion allowed to their fathers.

In the year 1840, Rao Hindupat, the great grandson of Pratap Sinh, ascended the *Jagirdar's gadi*. In his rule, in 1862, a *Sanad* of adoption was conferred upon him, authorizing him and his successors to adopt an heir, when they had no direct lineal issue, subject to the payment of a quarter of the annual revenues, as a *Nazarana* to the Paramount power. He died in 1871 and his son, Rao Chhatarpati, was then installed as the next *Jagirdar*, and he holds the estate of Alipura to the present day.

The *Jagirdar* belongs to the Parihar tribe of Rajputs. He was honoured with the title of Rao Bahadur, as a personal distinction, at the Imperial Assemblage of Delhi, in 1877. Ten years later, in the year of the Jubilee of the illustrious reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, he was again decorated with the title of the Companion of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India.

In 1888, the present *Jagirdar* ceded several lands for the construction of the Indian Midland Railway, for which he received adequate compensation. Three years later, he surrendered to the British all civil and criminal jurisdiction within the lands so ceded for the laying of the Railway lines.



Residence.—Alipura, Bundelkhand; Central India.

ALOTE.

Area.—1500 *bighas*. Population.—4,000.

Revenue—30,000 rupees.

In early times, when the Solanki Rajputs had been expelled from Gujarat, after the conquest of the kingdom by the Waghelas, they were flying from one place to another, in search of shelter, and at last, took up their abodes at Ajmere, Chitod and Oranak. Dissensions soon broke out

amongst their descendants, which again necessitated their emigration to another part of the country. At last at a time when Mewad was governed by the great Rana Pratap, and when Akbar graced the Imperial *Masnad* at Delhi, two youthful Princes of Solanki blood, proceeded to Malwa and set themselves up at the village of Bahadarpur. Their names were Khengarji and Bharmalji; of whom, the former vanquished and slew the Patel of the village and placed his younger brother Bharmalji on the *gadi*. He himself joined the ranks of the Imperial troops, sent by Akbar for the conquest of Malwa, under the command of Uzbek, and soon won the golden opinions of his general by his valour. His influence over Uzbek was so great that he was soon able to obtain from him a *Sanad* granting 85 villages to his younger brother, the chief of Bahadarpur. After his return to the village of his brother he handed over the *Sanad* with the management of all the 85 villages to Bharmalji and himself proceeded to Alote. Here in 1564, he managed to obtain an interview with the great Emperor Akbar, through his influence over the Moslem Subas of Malwa. The Emperor, who was at this time in Malwa, gave him audience, and expressed his desire that Khengarji should chastise the turbulent Bhils of the district and deprive them of their possessions. Accordingly Khengarji vanquished the Bhils of Alote and obtained from the Emperor a *Sanad*, granting him and his heirs, Alote and 125 other villages in that district. In 1565, he set up his capital at Alote and the *gadi* was successively occupied by Rav Sinh, Bhan Sinh, Man Sinh and Udai Sinh.

Udai Sinh handed over the reins of government to his son and heir-apparent, Gopinath, and himself marched to join the ranks of Prince Aurangzeb in his expedition against the Deccan. At Mahidpur he met the Mughal Prince, with whom he contracted great friendship, and they both directed their course towards the Deccan. Gopinath, in his father's absence, incurred the displeasure of the Emperor, who sent an expedition against Alote. The Moslem Subas of Malwa were, however favourably disposed towards Gopinath, and there was, consequently, no fighting between the hostile armies. The Emperor was much enraged at this result of the expedition, and promised the district of Alote in gift to Ratan Sinh, the Raja of Ratlam, in case he conquered it by force of his arms. Ratan Sinh, accordingly, invaded the possessions of Gopinath, but was repulsed with great loss.

In the bloody civil war that ensued between the sons of Shah Jahan, during that Emperor's life-time, for the succession to the throne, Aurangzeb was assisted by his old ally, Udai Sinh, who with his son.

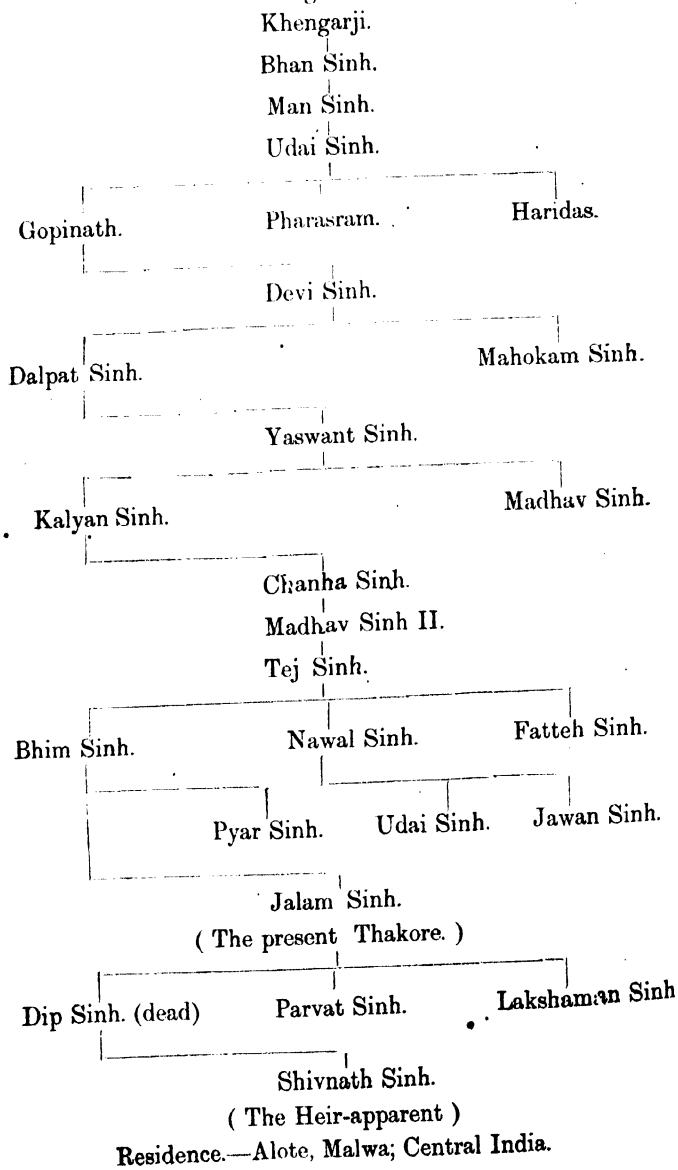
Gopinath, at once marched to the succour of that ambitious and treacherous prince. Udai Sinh was slain in the campaign, and Gopinath returned to his capital, where he soon assumed supreme control over the State in 1657-58. Gopinath had secretly abducted a niece of the Nawab of Mandu and had married her against her will. The tale of this seduction was divulged to the Nawab by a half-brother of the Rajput chief. A great struggle ensued, wherein the Hindus and the Moslems indulged in free fighting with each other. Gopinath was victorious in six combats; but in the seventh he was taken prisoner and the chiefship of Alote was handed over by the Suba to one Rajput Sirdar, of the name of Vishen Sinh. After some days, however, Gopinath regained his freedom and obtained from the Moslem Suba the grant of Alote, with 55 other villages. This occasioned a struggle with Vishen Sinh, in which the latter was slain.

To avenge this outrage, a grandson of Vishen Sinh, secretly despatched Gopinath with his sword, and the chiefship of Alote was thereupon confiscated by the Suba of Malwa. Devising, the son of Gopinath, who had been bred up at his mother's home, now turned out an outlaw and commenced systematically plundering the neighbouring villages, with a view to reobtain his ancestral *Raj*. The Suba of Malwa appeased him with the grant of the district of Alote and 21 other villages. In course of time he was succeeded on the *gadi* by Dalpat Sinh and Yashwant Sinh. During the rule of the latter, the Maratha Sirdars of the Peshwa's Court, from time to time, led invasions against Malwa, and Alote had to concede the *Chauth* to the victors. Kalyan Sinh next ascended the *gadi*. It was in his time that the Puar chiefs of Dewas established their sway over Alote, which had to acknowledge their supremacy. He was succeeded by Chanha Sinh and then by Madhav Sinh. The latter obtained for himself a concession, from the Puar chief, of three per cent of the revenues of Alote and Guncha. At this period the province of Malwa was distracted by the incursions of the Pindharas and other bands of plunderers. Madhav Sinh, however, remained firmly attached to the cause of the Puar in the midst of such troubles and disorders. He was succeeded by Tej Sinh, who was then a minor; and taking advantage of that circumstance, the Puar deprived him of eight villages and several other rights and dues. In compliance with the desire of the Puar chief of Dewas, Tej Sinh vanquished the Jhala Thakore of Mathangarh and slew him; in consideration of which service he obtained from the Puar chief an increase in his annual revenues from two to five per cent. This amount still continues to be enjoyed by the family. In

THE HIND RAJASTHAN.

the time of Bhim Sinh, who next ascended the *gadi*, the tribute, which was payable to the chief of Dewas, was enhanced from Rs. 1,800 to Rs. 2,958. After his death Thakore Jalam Sinh, the present Chief, was installed on the *gadi*.

Genealogical tree.



ALVA.

Area.—3 sq. miles. Population.—1402.

Revenue.—6,674 rupees.

Thakore Rasul Khan, by caste a Molesalam Girasia, aged 21 years, is the present Chief. He is a Bhayad of the Thakore of Agar. He has no civil and criminal powers. A tribute of Rs. 67 is paid by the Talukdar to the Baroda State, through the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha.

Residence.—Alva, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

AMALA.

Area.—119 sq. miles. Population.—5,300.

Revenue.—3,000 rupees.

Raja Ratan Sinh, by caste a Bhil, aged 53 years, is the Present Chief. The rule of succession in the family is one by primogeniture, and the chiefs hold no *Sanad* of adoption. The climate of the land is unhealthy, and owing to the wild nature of that hill tract its resources still remain unknown. The people are still attached to their old superstitious habits of thinking and are incapable of making any progress. This State is one of the Dang States in Khandesh.

Residence.—Modal, Khandesh District; Bombay Presidency.

AMALYARA.

Area.—80 sq. miles. Population.—12588.

Revenue— 33,453 rupees.

The ancestors of the present Chief of Amalyara are said to have originally belonged to the Chohan race of Rajputs residing at Sambhar (Ajmere), but one of them afterwards marrying a Koli wife of the Khant sept, lost his social status and became Koli. In the last years of the 17th century of the Christian era, a member of that family received, from Emperor Aurangzeb, in return for his valuable services, the Taluka of Amalyara, which is enjoyed by his descendants even to the present day.

Jalam Sinh, the present Thakore, who is 37 years old, is a fourth class Chief in the Mahi Kantha Agency, and holds criminal powers empowering him to inflict rigorous imprisonment upto one year, and fine up to Rs. 500; while in civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose of suits upto the value of Rs. 2500. Succession in the family follows the rule of primogeniture, and no *Sanad* authorizing adoption has been granted to the chiefs. The Chief pays to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda an annual tribute of Rs. 316-10-8 and to the British Government Rs. 488-0-8.

Residence.—Amalyara, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

AMRAPORE.

Area.—2 sq. miles. Population.—510.

Revenue.—400 rupees.

Jitbhai, Rambhai, Gulab Sinh, and Mohakam Sinh, by caste Bariyas, are the present Chiefs. A tribute of Rs. 207 is paid by them to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda, through the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them.

Residence.—Amrapore, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

AMRAPUR.

Area.—8 sq. miles. Population.—1804.

Revenue.—16,000 rupees.

The Talukdars of this petty State belong to the Mahomedan caste, and are known by the surnames of Seta and Malek. Formerly their ancestors belonged to the Rathod clan of Rajputs, but afterwards they became Mussalmans. This State was received by Ali Sher, in 1745, from Fakar-ud-Daula, the Suba of Gujarat. At present it is in the hands of his descendants. Ajambhai, Faridbhai and Mamudbhai are the present Talukdars. This Taluka was in the sixth class, but the British Government, suspecting that the Talukdars had rendered assistance to the Waghers, deprived them of their powers in 1863. Amrapur is 37 miles distant from the Dhoraji Railway Station.

Residence.—Amrapur, Kathiawad; Bombay presidency.

ANANDPUR.

Area.—130 sq. miles. Population.—2,725.

Revenue.—29,113 rupees.

According to bardic legends Anandpur was founded by Anant Chudasma, but afterwards it became desolate in 1608; it was again repopulated by the Kathis. It is divided among many Kathi Bhagdars, of whom Bhoj, Rama, and Mehesur are the principal; the others are Jethsur, Godad, Kanthal, and Sadul. The State has seven independent tribute payers. A tribute of Rs. 715 is paid by the Talukdars to the British Government, and Rs. 205 as *Zortalbi Hakka* to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh. They are in the sixth class, their criminal powers empower them to inflict rigorous imprisonment for three months and fine upto Rs. 200, while in civil matters they are empowered to hear and dispose of suits to the value of Rs. 500. Anadpur, is 18 miles distant from Chotila.

Residence.—Anandpur, Kathiawad, Bombay Presidency.

ANGARH.

Area.—3½ sq. miles Population.—1,050,

Revenue.—6,463 rupees.

The ancestors of the Chiefs of this Taluka came over and settled in this district in times long gone by. At present there are six Bhagdars (shareholders); of whom Nathu Bava, Bharath Sinh and Man Sinh are Pagis, whilst the other three Raghunath, Moti Sinh, and Kesar Sinh are known as Kotwals. The Kolis of this place have a dexterous hand at shooting and stealing. In 1856-57, they gave a good deal of trouble to the British Government. Their ravages struck terror in the whole of Mahi Kantha. The ringleaders were captured, one of whom was blown off at the cannon's mouth, while another was shot dead and several others were hanged. These drastic measures brought the Mewasis to their senses. An annual tribute of Rs. 1,740 is paid by the Bhagdars to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda, through the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha.

Residence.—Angarh, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

ANKEVALIA.

Area—17 sq. miles Population—2,246.

Revenue—14,460 rupees.

The Talukdars of this State belong to the Jhala Rajput clan and are Bhayads of H. H. the Thakore Saheb of Wadhvan. This State was received in *Jiwai* in 1739 by Sardar Sinh, the second son of Arjun Sinh, the Thakore of Wadhvan. Umed Sinh and Ganubha are the present Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 1,300 is paid by them to the British Government and Rs. 226 to H. H. the Navab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars are in the sixth class, and enjoy the same civil and criminal powers as the Talukdars of Anandpur. Ankevalia is 11 miles distant from the Limbdi Railway Station.

Residence.—Ankevalia, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

ATHGARH.

Area.—168 sq. miles. Population.—31,000.

Revenue.—16,200 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by Dhenkanal State; on the east by Cuttack District; on the south by the Mahanadi river, separating it from Cuttack on this side also; and on the west by the Tributary States of Tigaria and Dhenkanal.

The Principality of Athgarh was founded by Raja Niladri Deo Barman by the prowess of his sword. The present Chief Raja Shri Karan Bhagirathi Bawarta Patnaik is twenty-seventh in descent from the original founder of the principality. He is a Hindu of Kayasth descent and was born in 1844. He succeeded to the *gadi* on the 8th of February 1869.

Residence.—Athgarh Orissa Tributary Mahals; Bengal.

ATHMALLIK.

Area.—730 sq. miles. Population 21,774.

Revenue.—7,100 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the State of Radhakol in

the Central Provinces; on the east by Angul; on the south by the Mahanadi river, which separates it from Bod; and on the west by the States of Sonpur and Radhakol in the Central Provinces.

The principality of Athmallik was founded by Pratap Deo, who is said to have repaired to Puri (Jagan Nath) on a pilgrimage with the seven brothers of the Raja of Jaipur. The then reigning chief of Puri had a quarrel with the seven pilgrims and two of the brothers were put to death. Dismayed by this act of cruelty, the remaining five fled for their lives to the neighbouring hills and taking possession of Bonai, a small village, they set up an independent principality of which Pratap Deo was made the Raja. These brothers were accompanied in their pilgrimage by all the members of their families, and a sister of the new Raja was married to Balbhadra Bhanj, brother of the Keunjhar Raja. Inflamed with ambition Balbhadra plotted against the life of his brother, but the attempt falling through the miscreant, was seized and beheaded. His widow fled to Bonai and took refuge with her brother. The Raja sent his courtiers to bring her back, but Pratap Deo refused to give her up to one who had killed her husband. With her he removed to Ramganj in Bod, where she was delivered of a son. Gobardhan Deo, the Brahman chief of Bod happening to lose his only son, adopted the new born infant as his son and heir. The territories to the north of the Mahanadi were then held by a ruler of the Dom caste. Pratap Deo hastened thither and defeating the Raja obtained possession of his dominions. He subsequently founded a village and named it after him Pratappur. According to a tradition current in these districts Pratap Deo found a *handa* (metal pot) in a tank, which he was excavating near his new-built capital, and from that he gave the State the name of Handapa. The elevated plateau across the Handapagarh is to this day known as the *garh* (fort) of the old Dom Raja conquered by Pratap Deo, and the village of Pratappur still exists near its vicinity. After several generations, one of the successors of Pratap Deo, divided the State into eight parts, apportioning each to a separate holder, with a view to effectually subjugate the aborigines. From that date, the State of Handapa came to be known by the name of Athmallick ("eight lords"). The present Maharaja Mahendra Deo Sawant was born about the year 1848, and ascended the hereditary throne on the 4th February 1877.

Residence.—Athmallik, Orissa Tributary Mahals; Bengal.

AUNDH.

Area.—447 sq. miles. Population.—65,146.

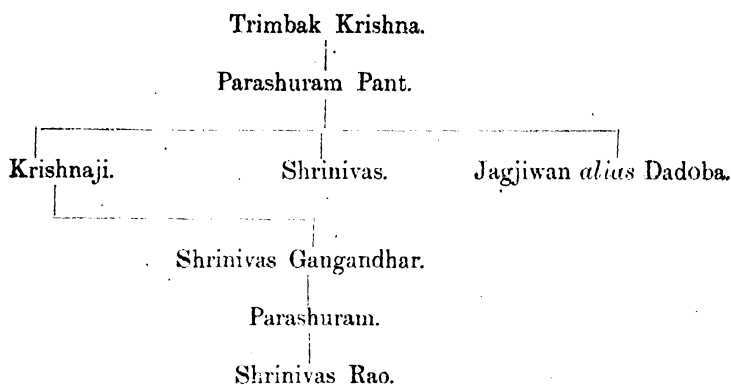
Revenue.—3,06,225 rupees.

Aundh (Atpadi sub-division) is bounded on the north by Man in Satara and Malsiras in Sholapur, on the east by Sangola in Sholapur, on the south by Khanapur, and on the west by Khanapur Khatav and Man.

The *Pant Pratinidhi* of Aundh is a Brahman by caste and ranks among the first class Sirdars of the Deccan. The family traces its descent from one Trimbak Krishna, who held the post of accountant of the village of Kinhal, in the Satara district. In 1690 the *gadi* at Satara was occupied by Rajaram, the youngest son of Shivaji, who raised Trimbak's son, Parashuram Pant, then in the service of Raunchandra Pant Amatya, to the high position of a Sirdar. In course of time he was in 1698 promoted to the rank of *Pratinidhi* (Viceroy), and became a great favourite with the Raja. Next year he had to vacate that office, as his predecessor Timaji Hanmant, who had been carried away prisoner by the Mughal troops, was set free and allowed to return to his native place. On Timaji being restored to his original post, Parashuram Pant was provided with the berth of the Peshwa or Prime Minister. Rajaram died in 1700, where his widow Tarabai, assuming the reins of government in her own hands, appointed Parashuram Pant to the post of the Viceroy (*Pratinidhi*). In the meantime Shahu, who was detained a prisoner at Delhi by Aurangzeb, was released in 1707 by Bahadur Shah. He proceeded towards the Deccan to take possession of his paternal estate, and Tarabai boldly determined to oppose his progress. In the civil war that ensued Parashuram was the chief military adviser of Tarabai. In 1707 a scuffle ensued between the rival troops, in which Parashuram was defeated and taken prisoner. The post of *Pratinidhi* thus falling vacant, it was in 1710 conferred on one Gadadhar Pralhad. He, however, did not live long to enjoy that high distinction, and after his death, the post was once more given to Parashuram, who had already been restored to liberty next year (1711). Parashuram was again deprived of his viceroyalty, which was then given to Narayan Pralhad. But as fate would have it, Parashuram Pant was in 1713 restored to his old post of *Pratinidhi*, and as an additional mark of distinction that office was made hereditary in his family. Parashuram Pant died in 1717, leaving behind him three sons, Krishnaji, Shrinivas, and Dadoba; of

these the second, Shrinivas, inherited his father's office, as the elder held already the viceroyalty of Vishalgadh under Kolhapur. Shrinivas *alias* Shripat Rao enjoyed the confidence of Shahu Maharaja, till his death, which occurred in 1746. As he had no male issue his younger brother, Dadoba, inherited the office of *Pratinidhi*. He was also appointed Prime minister by the Maharaja. Shahu died in 1750, and it was after his death that the Peshwa's influence manifested itself in all subsequent events. Dadoba incurred the displeasure of the Peshwa, who depriving him of his office bestowed it on Shrinivas Gangadhar *alias* Bhavan Rao, the grandson of Dadoba's eldest brother, Krishnaji Parashuram. In 1752, however, Dadoba was restored to his office and Shrinivas was appointed his assistant. Dadoba dying without issue, the office next devolved on Shrinivas. In 1762, Shrinivas was turned out by Raghunath Rao, who gave the place to his son Bhaskar Rao, but the latter lived to enjoy the sweets of his office for a brief space of four months only. After Bhaskar Rao's death, one, Naro Shankar was appointed to the place, but in 1763 Shrinivas opened negotiations with the Nizam and Raghoji Bhonsle of Nagpur, and through their intercession was restored to his hereditary post of *Pratinidhi*. In 1765, he was again dismissed by the Peshwa for disobedience, and his office was conferred on his cousin, Bhagwant Rao Trimbak. Bhawan Rao (Shrinivas) thereupon proceeded to Poona, where the Peshwa granted him an yearly allowance of 50,000 rupees. In 1768, he received a military grant (*Saranjam*) of the annual income of 5,00,000 rupees. Not content with this peaceful mode of life, he repeatedly marched against his cousin Bhagwant Rao, with whom he maintained a deadly feud till 1775, when the *Pratinidhi* departed his life. Bhavan Rao too died in 1777, and was succeeded by his son Parashuram. Born a day after his father's demise, Parashuram was soon installed as *Pratinidhi* by his patron Nana Phadnavis, who was one of his father's best friends. Parashuram attaining the age of eighteen years in 1795, he assumed charge of his hereditary estate. He rose in the estimation of his contemporaries by his unsurpassed valour. He died in 1848 and was succeeded by the present Chief, Shrinivas Rao, who had been adopted by Parashuram in 1847, with the previous sanction of the Paramount power and his liege-lord, the Maharaja of Satara, obtained by the payment of a rich *Nazarana* or succession royalty. Shrinivas Rao was during Sir Bartle Frere's regime (1862-67) nominated as an additional member of H. E. the Governor's Council for making Laws and Regulations only. The State pays no tribute to the British Government.

Genealogical tree.



(The Present Chief.)

Residence.—Aundh, Satara District; Bombay Presidency.

AVCHAR.

Area.—8 sq. miles. Population.—500.

Revenue.—170 rupees.

Naik Yeswant Badal, by caste a Bhil, aged 18 years is the present Chief. Succession in the family is governed by the rule of primogeniture, and the chiefs hold no *Sanad* of adoption. This state is one of the Dang States in Khandesh. The population chiefly consists of Bhils.

Residence.—Avchar, Khandesh; Bombay Presidency.

BABRA.

Area.—10 sq. miles. Population. 7,004.

Revenue.—40,000 rupees.

Champraj, Jiwa, Jaga, Unad, Mamaiya, and Mulu, Vala Kathis by caste, are the present Talukdars. No tribute is paid by them to any higher authority. They have six independent tribute payers. In ancient times Babra was the residence of Babroovahan, the son of the famous Arjoon, one of the Pandavas. At present there is a *Kund*, called after his name "*Babroovahan Kund*". A Thandar is stationed here by the Political Agent of Kathiawad. The Talukdars are in the sixth class, so their criminal

powers empower them to inflict rigorous imprisonment for three months and fine upto Rs. 200, while in civil matters they are competent to hear and dispose of suits upto the value of Rs. 500. Babra is 10 miles distant from both the Railway Stations of Chital and Lathi.

Residence.—Babra, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

BAGASRA.

Area.—56 sq. miles. Population.—16,156

Revenue.—1,00,000 rupees.

This State was founded by Vala Manchha Bhaiya, an inhabitant of Dewgam Dewali. After his death, his son, Bhaiyo ascended the *gadi*, from whose name his descendants began to be known by the appellation of Bhayani, and are known by the same title even to the present day. The financial condition of the State is prosperous, but its revenues are divided among many Kathi Bhagdars (shareholders), of whom at present Harsur, Jaga, and Giga are the principal; the others are by name Mulu, Godad, and Samat. A tribute of Rs. 2,550 is paid to the Baroda State by the Talukdars of this State and Rs. 1,540 to the Junagarh State as *Zortabli Hakka*. The principal Bhagdars are in the sixth class, therefore their criminal powers empower them to inflict rigorous imprisonment for three months and fine upto Rs. 200, while in civil matters they are competent to hear and dispose of suits upto the value of Rs. 500. Bagasra, the capital is situated on the bank of the river Chhatli and has a good appearance. A Thandar is stationed here by the Political Agent of Kathiawad. Bagasra is 10 miles distant from the Kunkavav Railway Station.

Residence.—Bagasra, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

BAGHAL

Area.—122 sq. miles. Population.—24,545.

Revenue.—60,000 rupees.

The chiefs of Baghal are Rajputs of the Puar tribe and have descended from one Ujjab De, who came from Ujjain and conquered Baghal. Nothing is known of its history till the time when it was overrun by the Gurkhas from Nepal between 1803 and 1815. A certain chief,

believed to be twenty-fifth in descent from Ujjab De, at last succeeded in driving away the Gurkhas, and the enterprising youth was recognised by Government as the rightful chief of Baghal. Kishan Sinh, who had been honored with the title of Raja in 1875, died on 23rd of July 1877, and was succeeded by his infant son Moti Sinh. The latter, however, dying on 12th October of the same year, Raja Dhyan Sinh, a collateral descendant of Ujjab De, succeeded, who is the present Chief. The Chief of this State has the power to award any sentence short of death, and are required to have the confirmation of the Superintendent of the Hill States and of the Commissioner of the Division in the case of capital punishment. For the convenience of his European guests, the Raja has built an excellent Travellers' Bungalow. He resides at Arki, in a handsome palace built on an imposing site, above the town.

Residence.—Arki, Simla Hill States, Punjab; Northern India.

BAGHAT.

Area.—33 sq. miles. Population.—8868.

Revenue.—10,500 rupees.

The Chief of Baghat is a Rajput, whose ancestors are said to have migrated from Dorar Nagri in the Deccan and conquered these dominions. Rana Mohindar Sinh was the reigning chief when the English were engaged in a war with the Gurkhas of Nepal (1803-15). The Rana espoused the cause of the Gurkhas, and on the termination of the war which ended in the expulsion of these lawless mobs, the British Government confiscated the Baghat territories. Three-fourths of the State were sold to Patiala for Rs. 1,30,000, while the remaining fourth was granted to Mohindar Sinh and his heirs. The Rana died without issue on the 11th of July 1839, and the estate lapsed to the British Crown by right of Escheat. In 1842, however, Lord Ellenborough was pleased to restore the lapsed portion to the late Rana's brother, Bijai Sinh. He dying in January 1849, without any male offspring, the State was once more treated as lapsed, but clemency Canning rewarded the devoted loyalty of Umed Sinh, a cousin of the late Rana, by restoring to him his patrimony in 1861. But as fate would have it, Rana Umed Sinh died before the deed conferring the grant was complete, and the dying Rana requested the Supreme Government to re-

cognise the claims of his son, Dalip Sinh. Accordingly in January 1862, a *Sanad* was granted to Rana Dalip Sinh, who is the present Chief.

Residence.—Baghat, Simla Hill States, Punjab; Northern India.

BAGLI.

Area—300 sq. miles. Population.—14675.

Revenue.—60,000 rupees.

This State was founded by Gokuldas. He was originally a servant of the Nawabs of Bhopal, but afterwards a dependant of Sindhia. On the occasion of the Settlement of Malwa in the year 1819 by Sir John Malcolm, Jalam Sinh, a descendant of Gokuldas was the Thakore of Bagli. He and his son Bhim Sinh were granted Piplia and eight villages, on a payment to Maharaja Sindhia of Rs. 5,562 a year, and five other villages, on a payment of Rs. 909 a year. Though he is immediately subordinate to the Gwalior Darbar, he is entitled to hold direct communication with the Agent to H. E. the Governor-General, through his accredited representative.

In 1864, when certain lands were required for the purposes of Railway in the province, Subhan Sinh, the then Thakore, agreed to cede the lands on the same terms as the two Chiefs of Dewas. After this he died in June 1866. As he had no male issue, he had adopted one Raghunath Sinh, a distant relative of his, descended from a common ancestor, who succeeded him. At that time Sindhia questioned the validity of the adoption, but after a careful inquiry the adoption was declared to be legal and valid, and binding upon Sindhia. Raghunath Sinh was formally recognised as the Thakore of Bagli, on his paying to Sindhia, a succession duty equivalent in amount to one-fourth of the net income of the fourteen guaranteed villages held by his ancestors. The *Jama* of the other 69 unguaranteed villages under the Thakorate was increased by Sindhia from 7,251 to 10,001 rupees.

The Thakore of Bagli signed a document in 1870, by which he acknowledged the supremacy of H. H. Maharaja Sindhia, and agreed to do service to his liege-lord on emergent occasions.

The Thakore of Bagli has judicial inferior powers and pays an annual tribute of Rs. 16,470 to H. H. Maharaja Sindhia. The present Thakore, Raghunath Sinh, was educated at the Residency Rajkumar

College, Indore, and is about 35 years of age.

Residence.—Bagli, Indore Agency; Central India.

BAI.

The Settlement made by Sir John Malcolm in 1819 empowered Parbat Singh and Raghunath Singh to receive dues on all goods, passing through the Simrol Pass, according to the rates levied under Ahalya Bai's rule. In return, the two chiefs guaranteed to maintain the security of the Pass and its surrounding districts. Under this arrangement they also held 25 *bighas* of *Inam* land and the village of Karinda, for which they paid a nominal rent of Rs. 30 a year. This arrangement has of late been altered and the Thakores receive a cash payment of Rs. 750 a year; in lieu of the amount realized from the dues and taxes which they levied on the merchandise. In return, they are required to pay every year a sum of Rs. 52-10 on account of the *Sirdeshmukhi* claimed by H. H. Maharaja Holkar. No documentary proof is available from which it can be definitely ascertained, at whose instance, or at what period, this change was effected. Thakore Hari Singh died in 1880 without issue, and his widow adopted Manrup Singh, who is the present Thakore.

Residence.—Bai, Indore Agency; Central India.

BAJANA.

Area.—185 sq. miles. Population.—16,027.

Revenue.—1,00,000 rupees.

This State belongs to Mahomedan rulers of the Jat race, who are designated 'Maleks'. Their ancestors came from Baluchistan and Makran. They accompanied the expedition led by Kasam against Sindh in 711, and settled themselves at a place called Vangabazzar. After several generations, two daughters were born to a Jat Sirdar in that family, who were exceedingly handsome. The Padshah of Sindh desired to grace his siraglio by marrying them, and resolved to use violence, if necessary, to carry out his wishes. When this came to the knowledge of the Jats, 700 of them left Sindh, and marched rapidly in the direction of Cutch. A party was despatched to overtake them. Rao Raydhanji declined to afford them shelter when he came to know of what had happened. They advanced towards Gujarat, but were overtaken by the Padshah's

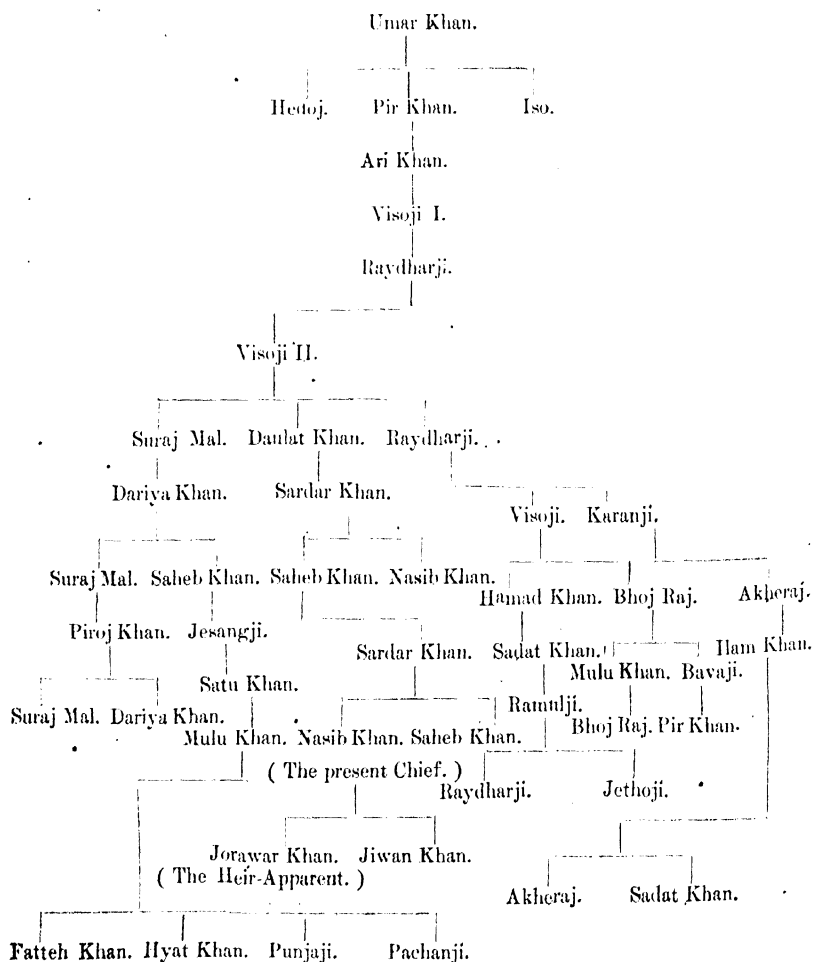
troops near Mungharbia, within the confines of Cutch. At this place a very awful tragedy was enacted; for instead of surrendering the two maidens, several women and one of the handsome girls were slaughtered, giving the Padshah's men to understand that both of them had been slain. The tombs of these poor victims are still to be seen at Lakhudh, a village in Cutch—fearful monuments of the atrocity perpetrated in the name of honour! The Jats crossed the great Ran of Cutch, and arrived at Morbi with Sumari Bai, one of the two fair girls, who survived the tragedy. The Sindhi troops pursued them thither; but the fugitives taking refuge with Lagdhirji, the Parmar chief of Muli, hid themselves in the Mandav hills, in the vicinity of Than. They were protected for some time from the attacks of the enemy by the brave Parmar chief, but eventually seeing that the capture of Sumari Bai was imminent, Lagdhirji carried her away. The vigilance of the Sindhis could not be evaded, and the fugitives were overtaken near Vanod. On this occasion Sumari Bai preferred to be buried alive to falling into the hands of the enemy. Her grave is still pointed out to visitors at Vanod.

The Jats then repaired to Ahmedabad, and sought shelter with Sultan Mahomed. Mahomed Begada was materially assisted by these Jats in his expedition against the kingdom of Patai Raol of Champaner in 1484. This expedition brought them so much renown that the Padshah bestowed on their leader, Malek Hedoj, the large estate of Bajana, with twenty-four villages. They subsequently conquered Mandal from the Jhalas with the permission of the Sultan. Several villages were allowed to be retained by the victors, but Mandal was taken and held by the Sultan in his own possession.

Once upon a time, the Jat Sirdar of Bajana incurred the displeasure of the Mughal Viceroy of Ahmedabad, who resumed the grant of the estate and ordered it to be partitioned among the Maleks. Bajana was assigned to the chief Malek Hedoj, Sitapur and Vanod to Malek Lakha *alias* Pir Khan, and Valivada to Malek Iso. The last named Malek forcibly dispossessed the Ravanas of the village of Warahi, and removed his seat there. At present Warahi is known as the senior Jotwad, and Bajana as the junior. After the death of Malek Hedoj, the *gadi* of Bajana was respectively occupied by Ari Khan, Visoji I., Raydharji, Visoji II., Suraj Mal I., Dariya Khan I., Suraj Mal II., Piroj Khan, and Suraj Mal III. At the time of Colonel Walker's Settlement, Bajana was ruled by Suraj Mal III. He died without issue, and his younger brother Dariya Khan II. succeeded him. He also expired without any male issue in 1841, and Nasib

Khan, his cousin, the present Chief, ascended the *gadi* on the 23rd of April of the same year. He is a fourth class Chief in the Kathiawad Agency; so his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for three years and fine upto 5,000 rupees, while in civil matters he is empowered to hear and dispose of suits upto the value of Rs. 10,000. He has two sons, Jorawar Khan and Jiwan Khan.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Bajana, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency

BAKHATGARH.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—10,826.

Revenue.—60,000 rupees.

Bakhatgarh is a subject State and stands to the Raja of Dhar, who is the Sovereign, in the same political relation as the Thakore of Multhan. In accordance with a settlement effected in 1818, the Thakore pays an annual tribute of 16,502 Hali rupees to the Raja of Dhar. In the year 1819, a dispute arose between the Thakore and the chief of Kachhi Baroda, regarding their claims over several villages; and the British Government interposed and settled their points of difference by allowing the claim of Bakhatgarh on the villages of Dhangikheri and Dudwar. The clauses of the Agreement, then effected, which related to these two villages, are still in force, but the other part of the engagement, bearing upon the question of the Mandloi dues, was subsequently modified in 1842, by Sir Claude Wade. This question was again re-opened in the year 1889.

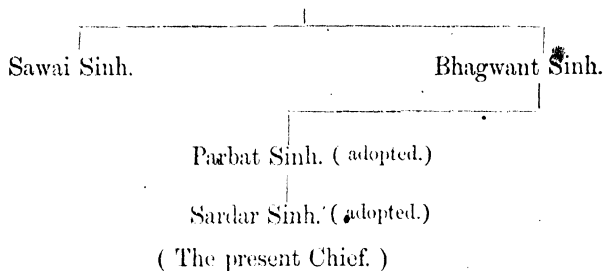
The original settlement, mentioned above, was effected with Thakore Pirthi Sinh in 1818. He was succeeded by his son Sawai Sinh, who, on his death in 1853, was succeeded by his younger brother, Bhagwant Sinh, the late Thakore of Bakhatgarh. Bhagwant Sinh had no issue, and was eventually permitted to adopt an heir, on the express understanding that if he had a son born to him, he would provide an yearly maintenance of 400 rupees for his adopted son. In the year 1869, Bhagwant Sinh died, without having adopted any heir to his estate. He had entrusted the task of selecting a fit boy to the discretion of his widow, and she, with the consent of the Raja of Dhar and the final sanction of the Supreme Government, selected one, Parbat Sinh, for the purpose. During the minority of the young chief the State was, however, managed under the supervision of a British officer, in accordance with the express wishes of the late Thakore. In 1882, Parbat Sinh attained the age of majority, and was placed in independent charge of the whole estate.

In the year 1892, Parbat Sinh expired, having adopted a near kinsman, Sardar Sinh of the Bhamkori family, to which Parbat Sinh had also belonged. The Supreme Government confirmed the succession of Sardar Sinh, who is the present Thakore of Bakhatgarh.

THE HIND RAJASTHAN.

Genealogical tree.

Pirthi Sinh.



Residence.—Bakhatgarh, Bhopawar Agency; Central India.

BALSAN.

Area.—40 sq. miles. Population.—5,496.

Revenue.—7,000 rupees.

The rulers of Balsan are Rajputs claiming their descent from one Alak Sinh, a cadet of the ruling chief of Sirmur. It was a mere feudatory appanage owing allegiance to Sirmur till 1815, when its independence was recognised by the British Power. The engagement to supply thirty *begaris* was commuted afterwards into an annual payment of 1,080 rupees. Thakore Jograj, the predecessor of the present Chief, was created a Rana in 1858 for services rendered during the troublous times of the Indian Mutiny of 1857. He was succeeded by Bhup Sinh. His son, Govardhan Sinh, died during his life-time. He died in 1884, aged 64. After his death Bir Sinh, his grandson, the present Rana, succeeded to the *gadi* on 17th November.

Residence.—Balsan, Simla Hill States, Punjab; Northern India.

BAMANBOR.

Area.—12 sq. miles. Population.—987.

Revenue.—2,103 rupees.

Sata, a Kathi of the Khachar clan, is the present Chief of Bamanbor. A tribute of Rs. 76 is annually paid by him to the British Government. He has also one independent tribute-payer, and is in the sixth

class of the Native Princes of Kathiawad. His criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for three months and fine upto Rs. 200, while in civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose of suits to the value of Rs. 500. Bamanbor is 16 miles distant from the Rajkot Railway Station.

Residence.— Bamanbor, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

BAMRA.

Area.—1,988 sq. miles. Population.—1,04,367.

Revenue.—49,567 rupees.

This principality runs up in the north into a point between the Bonai and Gangpur States; on the south it is bounded by the State of Rairakhol; on the east by Talcher and Pal Lahra in Orissa; and on the west by Sambhalpur.

The rulers of this principality are Gangawansi Rajputs tracing their pedigree from the same stock as the Gajpati Rajas of Puri in Orissa. Their founder acquired in very early times the territory of Bamra by right of conquest. The present Chief, Raja Sudhal Deo, born in 1843, inherited the paternal estate on 12th of May 1869 after the death of his uncle Tribhuwan Sinh. On January 1st 1889 he was created a Companion of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire. The Chief of this State has received a *Sanad* conferring on him the right of adoption, which was granted, in 1865, to the late Chief. By a document executed on the 15th February 1891, the Chief made over to the British Government certain lands, with the jurisdiction therein, required for the Bengal-Nagpur Railway Company. Raja Sudhal Deo has a son Sachidanand, who bears the honorific title of Tikait Babu.

BANGANAPALLI.

Area.—255 sq. miles. Population.—35,506.

Revenue.—2,72,250 rupees.

This little *Raj* owes its existence to several grants of *jagir*, conferred, in perpetuity, on Mahomed Beg, son of the Grand Wazier of Aurangzeb, and his descendants, by the States of Mysore and Haidarabad. In the year 1800

when the Nizam entered into a treaty with the British, by which he ceded several districts to them, this little principality was included in the territories so transferred to the British rule. The estate was by them conferred upon Muzaffar-ul-Mulk and his descendants in perpetuity. The *jagir* descended, without any interruption, to his successors, who continued in possession of the estate till 1845. In that year the territory was distracted by anarchy and extreme disorder; and in consequence of the incessant complaints raised against the *Jagirdar*, it was resolved to resume the *jagir* and amalgamate it with the British possessions, pursuant to the general policy of annexation, which was then frequently adopted. It was also arranged that a suitable provision should be made for the maintenance of the surviving members of the *Jagirdar's* family.

The *Jagirdar* indignantly refused to accept any such allowance, and denied the right of the British Government to resume any such *jagir*. The treaty of 1800, referred to above, indeed contained a clause, which by no means supported the *Jagirdar's* contention, for it provided that the estate had been transferred to the British Government in perpetuity. The *Jagirdar*, however, received some corroborative testimony from a correspondence, that had taken place between the Nizam and the British Resident at Haidarabad, previous to the final settlement of the terms of the above treaty. The Nizam had therein insisted upon the condition that the *jagir* of Banganapalli, though ceded to the British, was to be continued for ever to Muzaffar-ul-Mulk and his heirs, subject only to the rights of suzerainty of the British Government, which was also to have sovereign control over all the possessions of the Nizam, south of the Tungbhadra. From this evidence the Court of Directors of the East India Company held that the *Jagirdar* of Banganapalli was entitled to be treated in all respects as a hereditary holder of the estate. The India Government had, therefore, to abandon their idea of annexing the *jagir*; the Collector of the British District of Cuddapah, however, was asked to take an account of the receipts and disbursements of the *jagir*, and to liquidate the debts and the liabilities of the *Jagirdar*, and thereby satisfy the claims of all his creditors, who had been pressing their demands on the attention of the British authorities. Three-fourths of the annual revenues of the estate were set apart for this purpose by the British Officer.

Three years later, the accounts were closed, and the estate of Banganapalli was returned to Hussen Ali Khan,—the eldest surviving

member of the family. He, however, died soon after, before a *Sanad*, conferring this grant, could be issued to him. In 1849, his nephew, Gulam Ali Khan, succeeded him to the *jagir*, and got the *Sanad* from the Paramount Power. All the former rights and privileges, appertaining to the *jagir*, were now restored to him and his descendants for ever, and he was also granted civil and criminal jurisdiction in his territory, except in the case of crimes, involving capital sentence. An additional restraint was also imposed upon the *Jagirdar's* power of alienation, for it was expressly stipulated that no grant of land, conferred by the *Jagirdar*, was to hold good, except when evidenced by a document, and even then the alienation was to be upheld only so long as the land alienated continued in the possession of the alienee. By the same agreement all the frontier duties were finally abolished in the estate of Banganapalli.

In the year 1862, the *Jagirdar* received, from the British Government, a *Sanad*, by which the latter undertook to confirm in future any succession to the *jagir*, which would be upheld as legitimate by the dictates of the Koran. Gulam Ali Khan was decorated with the title of the Companion of the Order of the Star of India; and in 1868, when he expired, he was succeeded by his nephew and son-in-law, Saiyed Fath Ali Khan, the present holder of the *jagir*. The estate of Banganapalli has also been granted the privilege of being exempt from the obligation of paying the *Nazarana*, to the Supreme Government, on failure of direct lineal heirs. The present *Jagirdar* was, in 1876, honoured with the title of Nawab, as a hereditary distinction. Two years later, he was also enrolled as the Companion of the Star of India. Of his three sons, the eldest and the future successor to the *jagir*, has been given liberal English education.

In the year 1880-81, the manufacture of Salt in the Banganapalli district was prevented by the British authorities, and an annual compensation of 3,000 rupees was fixed to be paid by them to the *Jagirdar*, in order to indemnify him for the loss. The *jagir* is situated in the district of Karnool, and the British Collector of that district is empowered to exercise supervisory control over the affairs of this estate.

Residence.—Banganapalli, Madras Presidency; Southern India.

BANTWA.

Area.—221 sq. miles. Population.—42,105.

Revenue.—4,50,000 rupees.

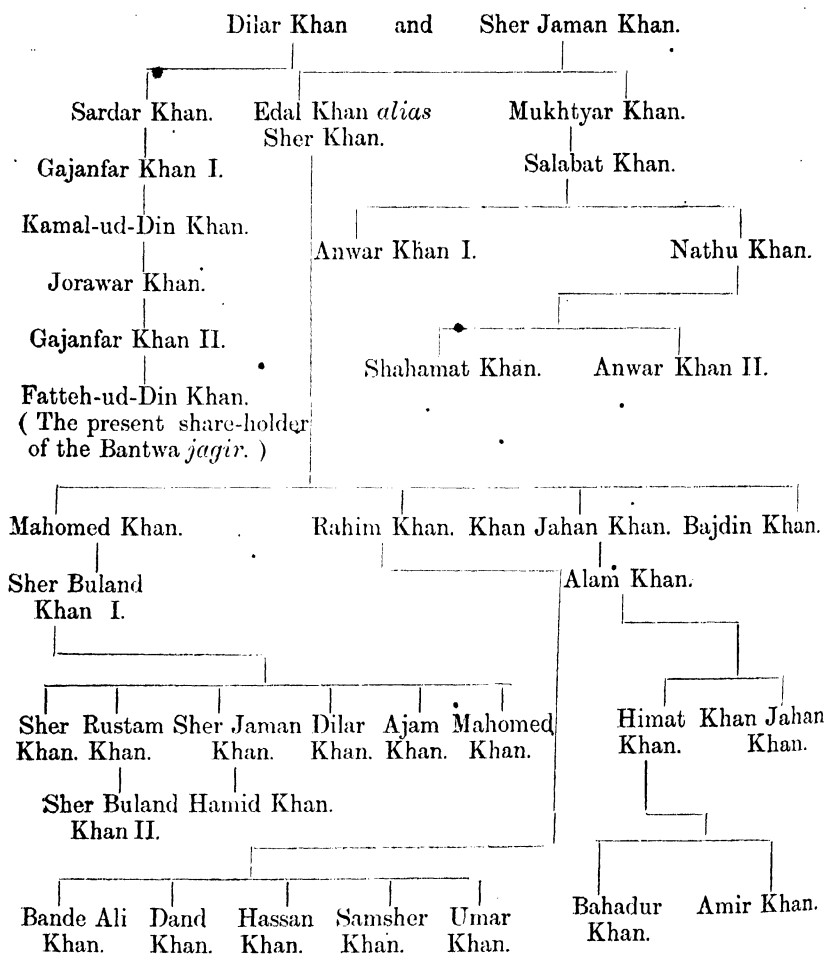
The Babi rulers of Bantwa are Mussulmans by caste, and are related to the Nawabs of Junagarh. As related in the annals of the State of Junagarh, Babi Salabat Mahomed Khan had three sons, Mahomed Bahadur *alias* Sher Khan, Dalil Khan, and Jaman Khan. The heir-apparent, Sher Khan, obtained, in 1722, criminal jurisdiction over several districts surrounding Ahmedabad, and was subsequently created a Suba of Sadra and Virpur in Gujarat. In course of time, he became the founder of the Mahomedan rule at Junagarh and Wadasinor. The estate of Bantwa was included in the possessions of Salabat Mahomed Khan, and from him it descended, in 1733, to his two younger sons, Dalil Khan and Jaman Khan.

Several years later, Edul Khan and Mukhtyar Khan, the two sons of Jaman Khan, the founder of the Bantwa house, rose up in arms against their kinsman, the Nawab of Junagarh. They laid siege to the fort of Wanthali, which they succeeded in reducing; they could not, however, long retain the prize, for it was, shortly after, recaptured by Amarji, the celebrated Dewan of Junagarh. It is related by Colonel Walker in his Report, that the estate of Wisavadar situated on the confines of the Gir forest, was owned by several Kathis, of the Wala clan. There was no security of person and property in that district, which was fast sinking into the depths of degradation and ruin, when the Kathis, in 1782-83, sought the protection of the Nawab of Junagarh, and agreed to pay him a tribute of half the revenues of that *jagir*, reserving, for their own sustenance, the other moiety of the estate. In the year 1794-95, when the Nawab of Junagarh entered into a matrimonial alliance with a daughter of the Babi of Bantwa, the portion of Wisavadar, transferred to Junagarh, was bestowed, as a nuptial gift, upon the bride's father. At this period, the Babi appropriated to his own use even the other moiety of the *jagir*, which was retained by the Kathis for their own maintenance. The enraged Kathis, thereupon attacked the Babi's garrison, and compelled it to abandon the district. The Babi, however, without being discouraged sent fresh reinforcements under the command of his Sirdars, who instantly proceeded towards

Wisavadar. The Kathis, at their approach, fled from the land, and sought refuge in the forest of Gir; and the *jagir* of Wisavadar, once again, returned to the sway of the Babi. Troubled by these constant inroads, the peace-loving populace had, however, abandoned the soil, and the country had been desolated by the ravages of war and plunder. Great efforts were made to recall the inhabitants and restore order in the district, but they were of no avail. At last the Babi, tired of keeping such a waste tract under him, conferred it upon one, Raning Wala, an adversary of the Kathis. Raning Wala had already played a conspicuous part in the episode of the revolt of Malhar Rao of Kadi against the Gaekwad, whom he had greatly assisted in seizing the person of the rebel. Actuated by pure self-interest, he had played false with his own kinsman; and had handed over Malhar Rao to the Gaekwad of Baroda. In return for this service he now received the support of the Gaekwad's troops, stationed in the province. With their help, he seized the strong-hold of Dhari, which had belonged to a Kathi, of the name of Matra Wala, an ally of the rebel Malhar Rao, and on whom Raning Wala had once practised an infamous fraud. To retaliate this indignity, Matra Wala, who had been an inveterate foe of Raning, marched upon the estate of Wisavadar, and pounced upon the troops of the Babi of Bantwa, which had been stationed there at the instance of Raning. The Babi's forces were scattered, and the estate, consequently, lapsed once more to the Nawab of Junagarh.

The principality of Bantwa is at the present day governed by three different branches of the Babi family. (1) Manavadar section, which is ruled over by Sirdar Babi Khan Shri Fattch-ud-Din Khanji, who succeeded to the *gadi* on the 28th March 1888, on the death of his father, Gazfar Khanji; (2) Gidad section, which is represented by Sirdars, Babi Khan Shri Shahamat Khanji and Anvar Khanji; (3) Bantwa section, which is held by Babi Khan Shri Sher Khanji and several other Sirdars of the same House. The following genealogical tree has been appended to explain their mutual kinship.

Genealogical tree.



(1) Manavadar branch :—This portion of the estate is now subject to the rule of Fatteh-ud-Din Khanji. The Babi has received education in the English and Vernacular languages, of a high order, at the Rajkumar College of Rajkot. He is a third class Chief, and as such enjoys authority in criminal cases to inflict punishments extending to seven years' imprisonment and a fine of rupees ten thousand. In civil cases he is empowered to decide suits, ranging in value upto twenty thousand rupees. The Babi resides in the village of Manavadar, situate twenty-two miles west of Junagarh.

(2) Gidad branch:—This section is represented by Babi Shahamat Khanji and Anwar Khanji. Both the Babis have received high culture at the Rajkumar College of Rajkot, and have studied English and the Vernacular languages. They are Sirdars of the fifth class, and consequently are only empowered to inflict, in criminal cases, punishments upto two years' imprisonment and a fine of rupees two thousand. Their civil jurisdiction extends upto suits of the value of 5,000 rupees. The Babi, for the most part of the year, resides in Gidad, which lies 18 miles to the west of Junagarh.

(3) Bantwa branch:—This portion of the *jagir* is owned by Sher Khanji and other Sirdars of the Babi family. Civil and criminal jurisdiction over this estate is exercised by Sher Khanji, who is the chief sharer in the family. He ranks as a fifth class Sirdar, and is entitled to the same powers as the Babi of Gidad. The *Jagirdar* resides at Bantwa, situated at a distance of thirty miles from Junagarh.

BAONI.

Area.—1,297 sq. miles. Population.—25,000.

Revenue.—3,500 rupees.

The Chief of this State belongs to the Kshatriya caste. Raja Tekait Dyanidhi Deo Bahadur ascended the *gadi*, on the 12th September 1876, after the death of his father, Chandur Deo. He rendered valuable services to the British Government in his father's reign during the Keonjhar rebellion of 1867–68, and in return received from them the title of “Bahadur” on the 5th of May 1871. This State is one of the Tributary Mahals of Chota Nagpur.

Residence.—Baoni, Tributary Mahals, Chota Nagpur; Southern India.

BARAMBA.

Area.—134 sq. miles. Population.—32,526.

Revenue.—27,814 rupees.

The State of Baramba is bounded on the north by Hindol; on the

east by Tigaria, on the south by Banki and Khandpara (the boundary-line being formed by the Mahanadi river), and on the west by Narsingpur.

This principality forms one of the Tributary Mahals in Orissa, and its history is traced so far back as the year 1305. Its founder Hatakeshwar Ravat was a celebrated wrestler in the employ of Kishori Narsinh, a ruler of Orissa. This Raja, pleased with some of his extraordinary feats of valour, granted him two villages Sonkha and Mohuri on the north bank of the Mahanadi, situate about three miles to the south of the town of Baramba. They were then inhabited by a wild tribe known by the name of Kandlis. Hatakeshwar expelled them from those places, and himself settled in Baramba, which has since then been the capital of his descendants. The two separate villages of Sonkha and Mohuri have long since been amalgamated into one village which is called Sonkha-Meri. Hatakeshwar, by strength of his arms, nearly doubled the extent of his dominions, and was, after his death, succeeded by his younger brother, Malakeshwar Ravat. He too like his brother enhanced the territorial extent of his domains as far as Ogalpur about three miles west of Sonkha-Meri and five miles south-west of Baramba. At Ogalpur he discovered the sacred temple of the goddess Bruhadamba, and named the State after her. After reigning for 18 years he died, and Jambleshwar Ravat occupied the *gadi* from 1375 to 1416. He subjugated the Kandli chief of Kharol, and conquering all his possessions annexed them to Baramba, which increased the area of the State to about 36 square miles. He was succeeded by Bholeswar Ravat, who conquered the chief of Amatia and extended the boundaries of the State to Ratapat, a village eight miles to the west of the capital. This village at present forms the boundary-line between Baramba and Narsingpur. His rule extended from 1416 to 1459, and he was, after his death, succeeded by Kanhu Ravat, who reigned for fifty-five years (1459 to 1514), and enhanced the extent of his State to Mohuli, five miles east of Baramba. Three rulers occupied the *gadi* between the years 1514 and 1537, when Nabin Ravat ascended the throne. It was under him that the State attained its largest extent, ranging from Ratapat in the west to Bidharpur in the east, measuring eighteen miles; and from the chain of hills separating Hindol from Baramba to the banks of the Mahanadi, about eight miles. Nabin Ravat died in 1560, and after him down to the accession of Krishna Chandra Mangraj, which took

place in 1635, nothing worth recording appears to have occurred in the annals of the State. It was between 1635 and 1650 that the Marathas first made their appearance, and the petty State of Baramba would have fallen an easy prey to their insatiable lust for plunder, had it not been for the fact that the wary Krishna Chandra readily acknowledged their supremacy, and agreed to pay an annual tribute of 6,335 *Kahans* or *Cowries*. Four rulers successively occupied the *gadi* of Baramba between 1650 and 1748, when the destinies of the State fell into the hands of Padmanava Birbar Mangraj Mahapatra, who happened to be a very weak and incompetent ruler. During the earlier part of his reign which extended from 1748 to 1793, the chief of Khandpara invaded Baramba, and driving out its weak ruler, remained in possession of it for full one year. Padmanava succeeded in recovering possession of his lost patrimony mainly through the assistance of the Raja of Khurda. Once more in 1775 Baramba was invaded by the neighbouring prince of Narsingpur, who captured the two important forts of Kharad and Ratapat. The usurpers were so powerful that Padmanava was obliged to solicit the assistance and intervention of the Marathas, who ultimately restored to him his lost possessions. Though never under the direct supremacy of the Mughal Emperors, the chiefs of Baramba were compelled to pay homage to the Marathas, to whom they paid a fixed annual tribute for several years. In the records of the State there are certain letters still extant, which unmistakably prove that the Marathas did exercise supreme authority over the affairs of the State; for in one of them is mentioned the fact that it was they who recovered the fort of Ratapat on behalf of the ruler of Baramba from the chief of Narsingpur; while there is another which shows that the Marathas once called upon the chief to be present at a certain place to settle a boundary dispute between Baramba and Narsingpur. Even the more powerful chief of Narsingpur was not free from the yoke of Maratha supremacy, for one of such letters addressed to him contains the decision of their Government regarding the possession of the forts of Kharad and Ratapat. The present chief of Baramba, Raja Bisambhar Birbar Mangraj Mahapatra, ascended the *gadi* on 15th July 1881, when he was hardly a year old.

Residence,—Baramba, Tributary Mahals of Orissa; Southern India.

BARDIA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—657.

Revenue.—13,000 rupees.

The Thakore of Bardia receives fixed allowances of Rs. 4,200, 1,325, and 60 from the Native States of Gwalior, Indore, and Dewas respectively. During the Indian Mutiny of 1857, Rao Nawal Sinh, the then Thakore of Bardia rendered material service to the English, in return whereof the Agent to the Governor General for Central India recommended Maharaja Sindhia to grant the Thakore the village of Barkheri on *istimrari* tenure at a rent of Rs. 800 a year. The *Jagirdar*, besides the estate of Bardia, holds the village of Baorikheri on a quit-rent of Rs. 201, as also 500 *bighas* of land in Dabri, and Bijnakheri, and a garden at Agar. The Rao annually receives a payment of Rs. 2 from each of the villages in the districts of Agar and Piplaun, in the territory of H. H. Maharaja Sindhia.

It was Thakore Karam Sinh with whom the first settlement was effected. He was after his death succeeded by his son, Nawal Sinh. The latter, dying in 1865, was succeeded by his son Dhankal Sinh, the present Thakore, who was then only 14 years of age.

. Residence.—Bardia, Western Malwa Agency; Central India.

BARODA-SHEOPUR.

Area.—158 sq. miles. Population.—20,000.

Revenue.—50,000 rupees.

The chiefship of Baroda-Sheopur was, in the beginning of the present century, conquered by the Marathas, though a portion of it was retained by Raja Radhika Das, who had inherited the estate from his father Kishor Sinh. In 1820, by a grant from Daulat Rao Sindhia, Radhika Das was confirmed in the possession of 23 villages. Raja Radhika Das died in 1827, and was succeeded by Balwant Sinh. Jankoji Rao conferred on him, in 1830, twelve villages under a special guarantee. He supported the mutineers in 1857, and his *jagir* was confiscated; but subsequently, through the mediation of the British Resident, it was restored to him in 1859.

Balwant Sinh died in 1865, and was succeeded by his son Bijai Sinh, by caste a Gor Rajput, who is the present Thakore.

Residence.—Baroda-Sheopur, Gwalior Agency ; Central India.

BASHAHR.

Area.—3,300 sq. miles. Population.—75,727.

Revenue.—50,000 rupees.

The rulers of this State are Rajputs claiming descent from the celebrated Shri Krishna, the Yadav ruler of Dwarka. According to a legendary folklore Pradyuman, the grandson of Shri Krishna, came to Bashahr from Benares to marry the daughter of Raja Bavasa Deo. The bride-groom slew the father-in-law, and took possession of his dominions. While the English were engaged in the Gurkha War, between the years 1803 and 1815, Bashahr was overrun by lawless mobs of the Gurkhas, but on their expulsion, in the year 1816, when all the hill-territories in the Punjab were restored to the native chiefs, by the British Government, Raja Mahendar Sinh obtained from them a *Sunad*, conferring upon him and his heirs, in perpetuity, the small *Raj* of Bashahr and several surrounding tracts of land. This grant was, however, subject to the payment of a tribute of 15,000 rupees per annum,—the only instance, in which such a condition of the payment of tribute was imposed upon the Hill Rajas of the Punjab. In the year 1847, the amount of the tribute was reduced to Rs. 3,946, in order to indemnify the Raja for the loss he suffered by the abolition of transit duties, which measure was carried out under pressure from the Supreme Government. At the same time, the Thakarats of Kotkhai and Kumharsain were declared independent of the control of Bashahr, and the district of Rawin was transferred from the *Raj*, and annexed to the neighbouring State of Keonthal. Several hill-forts were reserved to themselves by the British Government, where they stationed their own garrison, but they have since been returned to the chief of Bashahr.

In the year 1864, the Raja entered into an agreement with the British Power, by which he leased to them all his forest rights for a term of fifty years. Seven years later he also added, to the lease, his rights over all unclaimed timber in his estate. In 1877 these several stipulations were consolidated into one agreement, by which a rental of 10,000 rupees

per annum was made payable to the Raja, in lieu of the rights so ceded, and by which the conservancy of the forests was also more efficiently secured.

The small estate of Sairi, which yielded its chief an annual income of 400 rupees, is situated in close proximity to the *Raj* of Bashahr. Dharami Sinh was the last chief, who ruled over this small principality. After his death in 1813, his widow continued to hold the estate till the end of her life in 1864. As she died without leaving any lineal heir, the Raja of Bashahr claimed it by rights of suzerainty. He desired to confiscate it in the exercise of his right of Escheat, for failure of heirs. His contention was allowed, and he was permitted to resume the Sairi estate, after providing for an annual allowance of 150 rupees to the nearest surviving representative of the Sairi family. The Raja had, however, adopted very unscrupulous means for the purpose of proving his title; he had dishonestly made several alterations in the old *Sanad* of 1816, for establishing his rights of sovereignty over Sairi; and, as a penalty for such fraudulent conduct, a fine was imposed on the Raja, by which he was made to pay one year's revenue of the Sairi estate, as *nazarana* to the Paramount Power.

The Rajas of Bashahr are Rajputs by caste. The present Chief, Samsher Sinh, was installed on the *gadi*, in 1849, at the age of eleven years. No less than 120 generations are said to have elapsed between Shri Krishna, the father of the founder of this *Raj*, and the present Raja of Bashahr. In the year 1886, the Raja, who had been long suffering from physical and mental weakness, brought on by irregular habits of life, relinquished his authority in favour of his son Tika Raghanath Sinh, who conducts the administration at the present day, with the title of Mukhtar-ul-Maham, or Siri Wazier. The Raja of this State is required to furnish troops in aid of the British Government in time of war, and labour for the construction of roads in the Bashahr territory. The Raja is empowered to exercise full criminal powers, except the infliction of capital sentence, which requires the confirmation of the British Government.

Residence.—Bashahr, Punjab Hill States; Northern India.

BASODA.

Area.—68 sq. miles. Population.—6,735.

Revenue.—7,000 rupees.

*The estate of Basoda originally formed part of Kurwai, and though

subordinate to Gwalior, it has never paid any tribute to Maharaja Sindhia. At present it is under the jurisdiction of the British Political Agent of Bhopal, who possesses over it the same general control as over other guaranteed States. Offenders committing heinous crimes are tried in the Court of the Political Agent with the aid of Assessors. He is also a referee in all disputes arising between the Maharaja Sindhia and the Nawab of Basoda. When the interests of the two States conflict, the Political Agent supports the cause of the Basoda Chief.

Asad Ali Khan, the late Nawab, occupied at one time the place of the Prime-minister of Bhopal. He was suspected of intriguing with Dastgir, a spurious claimant to the Bhopal throne, and was dismissed, and deported to Benares, where he was kept under surveillance. In 1858, he was released on payment of a fine of Rs. 25,000. He died in 1864, and was succeeded by the present Nawab, Amar Ali Khan, then thirty-four years old. He is exceedingly fond of travelling abroad, and has visited the principal note-worthy places in the continents of Europe and Asia. During his absence, the administration of the estate is, with the sanction of the Supreme Government, carried on by the Heir-apparent. Amar Ali Khan abolished all transit duties within his territories on 1st June 1884.

Residence. — Basoda, Bhopal Agency; Central India.

BASTAR.

Area.—13,062 sq. miles. Population.—3,10,884.

Revenue.—1,68,268.

This State is bounded on the north by Raipur District; on the south by the Sironcha Sub-division of the Chanda District; on the east by the Bendra Nawagarh estate in Raipur, and the Jaipur State; and on the west partly by the Ahiri estate, and partly by Sironcha Sub-Division.

The ancestors of the Chief of this estate are said to have fled from Warangul before the conquering arms of the Mahomedan rulers, when the latter encroached upon their *Raj*, early in the fourteenth century. During the latter half of the eighteenth century, Bastar was distracted by a Civil War, and the Chief was expelled, by his brother, from his capital, and compelled to seek refuge with the neighbouring Chief of Jaipur, in the Northern Circars. In 1777, he was, however, restored to his ancestral

domains with the help of this Chief, and the district of Kotipad was transferred to Jaipur in return for the valuable assistance rendered by its Chief. Several conditions were, however, attached to this grant, and their non-observance by the Chief of Jaipur brought about a declaration of hostilities with him in 1782. In the struggle that ensued, the Chief of Bastar died before he could entirely regain the *Pargana* of Kotipad, and as Bastar had, at this period, grown very irregular in the payment of the annual tribute to the government of Nagpur, the latter seized the *Pargana* of Kotipad, and bestowed it upon the Chief of Jaipur, subject to the obligation of supplying military assistance against Bastar, whenever called for.

For several years the whole territory was distracted by the quarrels and feuds of these two neighbouring States of Bastar and Jaipur, and extreme anarchy prevailed there in consequence of the incessant warfare. In 1819, the Nagpur Government entered into an Agreement with Mahipal Deo, the Raja of Bastar, at the time of the Revision of the Settlement of the District of Chhatishgarh, by which the latter agreed to pay to Nagpur, an annual tribute of 5,000 rupees, subject to a deduction of Rs. 1,000, on account of the Kotipad district, which still remained separated from his domains. The Chiefs of Bastar repeatedly urged their claims to the restoration of Kotipad, but it was finally decided in 1863, that the British Government, which had succeeded to all the rights of sovereignty enjoyed by the rulers of Nagpur, should receive from Jaipur an annual tribute of 3,000 rupees, in consideration of the Kotipad district, which was allowed to be retained by its Chief, free of the condition of military service, formerly attached to the grant. Out of this sum, 2,000 rupees were paid by them to the Raja of Bastar, to compensate him for the resumed *jagir*, and the remaining amount was appropriated by the British, in payment of the tribute due to them from Bastar, which then stood at Rs. 3,056 per annum.

Raja Bhairam Deo, the late Chief of Bastar, was born in 1839, and succeeded to the estate in 1853, at the age of fourteen. In 1862 he was granted a *Sanad* of adoption by the British Government, and he owed his allegiance to the Paramount Power, and acknowledged fealty to them. No event worth recording transpired in the political annals of Bastar till the month of March 1876, when a wide-spread revolt disturbed the peace of Bastar. Gopinath Guru, the Diwan, and Adit Prasad, his favourite colleague, were harassing the helpless Ryots by their policy of systematic

oppression and injustice, and their tyrannical acts goaded the infuriated multitude to the verge of despair. The obnoxious courtiers were eventually removed from their office, and sent off to Sironcha in the Central Provinces. With a view to appease the malcontents still further, Lal Kalandar Sinh, a cousin of the Raja, was nominated the Diwan in 1881. The new Diwan could not, however, long pull on well with the Chief, and had to retire in consequence of an altercation, he had with the Rani.

In 1883, when the Commissioner visited Bastar, he found the country distracted by utter confusion and turmoil; and the Chief Commissioner decided that Lal Kalandar Sinh should be reinstalled in the office of the Diwan, and that a British officer, of approved merit, be selected by the Government to assist him in his arduous task. Tehsildar Mahomed was accordingly selected as the Naib Diwan. These arrangements, though sanctioned by the Supreme Government, had soon to be abandoned, for Lal Kalandar Sinh was found utterly incompetent for the responsible duties to which he was called. Eventually, in 1886, an Extra Assistant Commissioner was appointed Diwan, with the sanction of the Chief Commissioner.

In 1889, an alteration was made in the original Agreement, which the Chief had entered into with the Supreme Government. The entire sum of 3,000 rupees, payable by the Chief of Jaipur, was now to be entered in the account of the Bastar State with the Government of Madras; Rs. 1,000, out of this sum, were to be credited in the account of the Kotipad *Pargana*, and the remaining amount was to be appropriated in part payment of the Bastar tribute, which was reduced to Rs. 2,056, for the life-time of Bhairam Deo; the balance of 56 rupees was to be realised directly from the Bastar Chief.

In the month of July 1891, Raja Bhairam Deo expired, leaving an infant son, Rudra Pratap Deo. The Government recognised the succession of Rudra Pratap Deo to the *gadi*, but during his minority, a Superintendent has been appointed to administer the State, under the control of the Political Agent.

Residence.—Jagdalpur, Central Provinces; Southern India.

BAVDA.

Area.—137 sq. miles. Population.—43,770.

Revenue.—87,431 rupees.

Bavda is bounded on the north, east, and south by Panhala Karvir, and Bhudhargarh in Kolhapur, and on the west by the Ghats.

The ruling Chief is a Hindu, and a Brahmin by caste, and belongs to the Bhadanekar family. He enjoys the hereditary title of *Panth Amatya* of Bavda. Very little of any importance is known of the past history of this *jagir*. On the 9th May 1867, the late Chief died, without leaving any issue behind him. Madhav Rao Moreswar, the present Chief, was, therefore, adopted to him, and installed on the *gadi*, on the 2nd April 1868. His adoption was recognised by the Supreme Government, and an administrator was appointed by them to carry on the affairs of the State, during the minority of the young Chief, who was quite a boy, when he succeeded to the *gadi*. On the 12th March 1881, the Chief came to age, and was entrusted with independent control over the estate. In the task of administering the affairs of the State, he is assisted by a *Karbhari*, nominated by the Raja of Kolhapur, who claims the rights of a suzerain over him. He has to pay an annual tribute of Rs. 3,420 to his sovereign, the Raja of Kolhapur. Succession to the estate is governed by the rule of primogeniture, and no *Sauad*, conferring the right of adoption, has been granted to the *Jagirdars*. The village of Bavda lies 26 miles to the south-west of Kolhapur.

Residence.—Bavda, Kolhapur Agency; Bombay Presidency.

BERL.

Area.—28 sq. miles. Population.—4,521.

Revenue.—21,000 rupees.

Jagat Raj gave the hand of his daughter in marriage to one Acharjya, on whom he also bestowed the villages Umri, Chili and Dadri. The descendants of Acharjya held them under the Bundela Rajas. After Acharjya's death, Khuman Sinh, his son, ascended the *gadi*. Ali Bahadur confirmed Jugal Prasad, the son of Khuman Sinh, in the possession of those villages. When the British Government occupied the province of

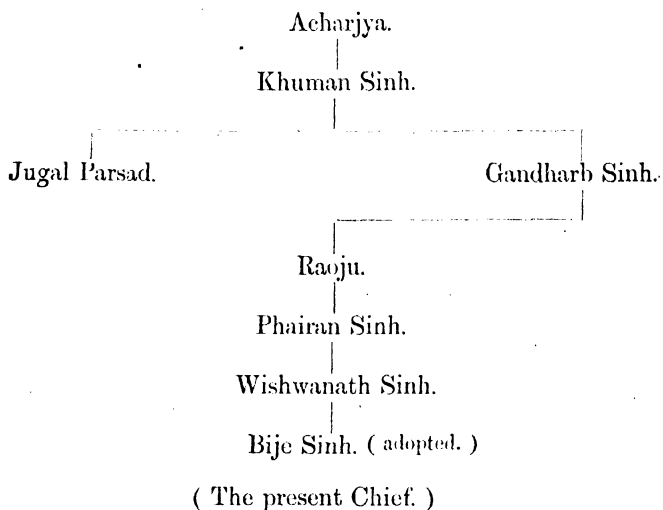
Bundelkhand, a *Sanad* was granted to Diwan Jugal Prasad in 1809, by which he was allowed to retain possession of Umri, while the other villages of Chili and Dadri were resumed by the Paramount Authority. Of these, Dadri was given to Nana Govind Rao, who in return relinquished possession of certain villages in Kalpi in favour of the British Government. When, at a subsequent period, the claims of Jugal Prasad to these villages were duly recognised, he was put in possession of Chili, while in lieu of Dadri, he was given lands of equal value in the district of Jalalpur. The Diwan was also awarded all the mesne profits obtained from these villages during the period of resumption. As these villages were situated in the midst of that portion of the territories which was immediately under British Regulation and Jurisdiction, disputes often arose on the question of the exemption of those villages from the operation of British Regulation. With a view to avoid such inconvenience, the Diwan was, in 1811, granted other villages in exchange for those which were now resumed by the British Government.

Jugal Prasad died in 1814, and was succeeded by Phairan Sinh, grand-son of his full brother Gandharb Sinh. His father Raoju voluntarily relinquished his claims to the *gadi* in his favour. Phairan Sinh died in 1857, and was succeeded by Wishwanath Sinh, who also died in May 1861 A. D. On his death, his widow expressed her desire to adopt one Balbhadra Sinh, a distant relative of the House, superseding one Bijē Sinh, who was the son of the late Diwan's first cousin. The Supreme Government recognised the claims of Bijē Sinh, who was duly installed on the *gadi* at the age of 13 years. The recognition of Bijē Sinh's title was mainly based on the following grounds: (1) that he was the near relative of the deceased *Jagirdar*; (2) that he was living with the late *Jagirdar* in the same house at the time of his demise; (3) that he performed all the funeral rites and ceremonies; (4) that the principal Thakores and Bhayads had recognised him as the rightful claimant; and lastly that the British Political Officers were in favour of the recognition of Bijē Sinh's claims, both on the ground of nearer kinship as well as policy. The late *Jagirdar* had rendered material service to the British Crown during the Mutiny of 1857, in recognition whereof the Supreme Government remitted the amount of succession duty, which would have otherwise been claimed on the accession of a collateral heir. In 1862, he along with other chiefs was granted the *Sanad* of adoption. A royalty amounting to a quarter of the annual net revenues of Beri is levied on the occasion of direct succes-

sion; while twice that amount is exacted on succession by adoption. Bije Sinh ceded to the British Government certain lands for the construction of the Betwa Canal in 1885, for which he received adequate compensation. Though lands with civil and criminal jurisdiction over them were ceded to the English, no formal engagement was on that occasion concluded between the parties. It was only with Datia, Samthar, and Baoni that such engagements were made, though Beri and other petty States ceded small areas of land for the same purpose.

Rao Bije Sinh is by descent a Puar Rajput and has a son, by name, Kunwar Bahadur Noni Raghu Raj Sinh.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Beri, Bundelkhand; Central India.

BHABHAR.

Area.—80 sq. miles. Population.—7,222.

Revenue.—2,500 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by Deodar, east and south by Terwara, and west by Suigam and Tharad.

Bhabhar is held by Koli Talukdars, and is distributed among several petty Bhayads. Their history is the same as that of the Talukdars of Kankrej. Hathiji of Kankrej taking advantage of a general rising in the

province, in 1742, encroached upon some waste and some inhabited tracts of land under Terwara, and formed a separate Taluka. There are two principal share-holders in this Taluka, none of whom enjoys any civil or criminal powers.

Residence.—Bhabhar, Mahi Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

BHADARVA.

Area.—27 square miles. Population.—9,185.

Revenue.—39,066 rupees.

The chivalrous *Kshatriyas* of old considered it highly ignominious to be a burden upon their ancestral estate, and often went about the country in search of fortune, or in pursuit of some adventure, and set up independent governments in foreign parts; or marrying the daughters of ruling potentates acquired boundless influence at their courts. Similarly three princes, Raj, Bij and Dandak, sons of Bhuvanaditya, fourth in descent from Bhuwad, the celebrated King of Kaliyani* in the Deccan, who had acquired great renown in the struggle with Jayashikhari, the father of the great Vanraj Chavada, who founded the Empire of Gujarat, once set out on a pilgrimage to Sorathi Somnatha. On their way they arrived at Anhilwad Patan, the capital of Gujarat, where Samat Sinh, the last of the Chavada line, was then reigning in full splendour. Of these three princes, Bij was an adept in horsemanship, and it is related of him that while they were living in their tents on the out-skirts of Patan, they saw a person of the royal household named Punjoji, a Dahir Rajput by caste, passing along that road riding a mare big with foal belonging to Maharaja Bhojande *alias* Samat Sinh. The horseman struck the mare with a whip, when Bij in anger exclaimed 'Thy whip has pierced the left eye of the foal in the mare's womb. Fool as thou art, thy hands deserve to be cut off.' Raj, upon hearing this, remonstrated with his brother, and advised him not to pick up a quarrel in a foreign territory. Punjoji returning to court, related all that had happened, to Samat Sinh, urging that his insult should be adequately avenged. The Raja, instead of

*According to Dr. Buhler, late Educational Inspector N. D. this Kaliyani was in the vicinity of Kanouj.

taking umbrage, invited the three princes to his court to drink the opium draught (*kasumbo*). They thankfully declined the invitation, whereupon the Maharaja with all his courtiers went to the outskirts of the city, where the three princes had lain encamped, and exchanged courtesies with them. In the course of conversation Bij said that what he had predicted about the mare was true, and as a guarantee he would pledge his two eyes to the monarch of Gujarat. So saying he drew his sword and scooping the eye-balls out of their sockets, he placed them before Samat Sinh, observing that if what he had told about the mare turned out false, he would forfeit his eyes, otherwise they would wreak their vengeance for the loss of his eyes.

The Raja and his courtiers became pale with grief, and Samat Sinh, with great importunity escorted them to his palace. There, to further test the skill of Bij, he led him to his stables and said 'I have a young horse, only eighteen months old. It moves twenty-seven, (27) paces and then sits down. Can you suggest to me any remedy? Bij turning his hand over the horse's back replied 'There is a slab of stone deposited in its back. When that is pressed, the animal sits down.' The skin on the back of the horse was accordingly torn asunder and a slab was actually extracted. After the wound was properly healed, the horse was ridden again, when after proceeding 27 paces it stopped instead of sitting down as before. The king was pleased, and he entertained the guests at his palace for several days. The Raja had a sister named Lila-devi, who fell in love with Raj, the eldest of the three princes; and when Samat Sinh came to know of it, he began to make enquiries as to his guests' lineage. When he learnt that they were *Kshatriyas* of the Solanki blood, he offered to Raj the hand of his sister, together with 350 villages. Bij advised his brother to accept the offer, but told him to put off the marriage till they returned from their pilgrimage to Dwarka and other sacred places in the province.

From Patan they went to Kerokot (Kanthakot), the capital of **Rah Lakhoji**. One of his horses, named Navlakho, did not place his fourth foot on the ground, and Bij skilfully cured it of that defect. Lakhoji was much delighted, and entertained the three princes at his court for several days. When he learnt that they were no less than the sons of the powerful king of Kalyani, he wedded his sister Chandrakunvarba to the eldest prince Raj. They stayed there for six months, during which period they were regaled with rounds of entertainments. Chandrakunvarba

showed signs of pregnancy, and everything went on smoothly, when an unpleasant incident occurred, which marred their happiness for ever. Once Lakhoji and Raj were playing at *Chopat*, when in the excitement of the game, Lakhoji clapped his hand on Raj's palm. Raj jestingly remarked 'Brother, your hand is as soft as that of a fair maiden.' The Rah was much vexed, but restraining his passion, replied. 'You have married my sister, and ought therefore to be revered by me, else I would have shown you the prowess of that hand.' Raj only replied:—'I am to be worshipped, as you say, as long as I stay here. I challenge you to shew me your strength when I return to Patan.' He then begged leave of his brother-in-law, and visiting all sacred places, returned to the capital of Gujarat. There, Raj was married with great *eclât* to Jaskumwarba *alias* Liladevi, the sister of the ruling monarch, Samat Sinhji. While Raj and his brothers were staying at Patan, Lakhoji proceeded to Patan with fourteen followers, and killed the gate-keeper. When this information was brought to Samat Sinhji, the brave Raj and his brothers forthwith hastened, without a single follower, to the gate of the city to meet the opponent. Raj asked Lakhoji to strike the blow, but he said that as he had already killed the gate-keeper, it was now his rival's turn to use his weapon against him. The brave Solanki took out his lance, and forcibly hurled it against his opponent, who parried the blow by means of his shield. It was now Lakhoji's turn to strike, and he flung his missile with such violence that it pierced the fore-head of Raj's gallant steed. The animal reeled and fell down on the ground with the bewildered rider on its back. Lakhoji descending from his horse, ran to the spot where Raj had fallen, and holding him by his hand, exclaimed 'Pardon me sir! I hope you are not hurt.' Lakhoji's lieutenant, who was riding by his side, upbraided his master by saying that there was no reason for asking pardon in a fair fight; and the Rah, feeling the sting of that remark, stabbed Raj in the heart with his dagger. The gallant prince breathed his last, and Lakhoji returned to Kanthkot with his turban, which he gave to his sister Chandrakumwarba, whom Raj had left at her brother's palace. The bereaved widow entrusted her only son, Rakhiyat, to the care of her brother, Lakhoji, and ascended the funeral pyre to meet her departed lord in the other world. No sooner were the evil tidings of Raj's demise conveyed to the Patan Court than his widow Jaskumwarba *alias* Liladevi made preparations to become *Suttee*. Bij, however, intervened, urging that she was then big with child, and if a son be born, he would, one day, avenge his father's death. Thus was

Liladevi prevented from immolating herself on the funeral pyre. On the completion of the ninth month, a son was born to Liladevi, and the family priest was summoned to cast the horoscope of the infant prince. After making several calculations, the priest said that the boy was born under the influence of the Mool * constellation, and would one day destroy his maternal uncle and uproot his whole family; he would further suffer all the miseries of exile in early childhood, and after his return, would kill his uncle and occupy the throne of Gujarat. This sad tale was heard by the wife of Samat Sinhji. Once, while fondling the infant, lying in her lap, she exclaimed:—‘ All my worldly happiness depends upon thee, O dear child!’ Liladevi heard these words with dismay, and felt so much enraged that she ordered several assassins to be brought to her presence, and giving over the child into their hands, she ordered them to kill such an inauspicious babe and avert all further calamities. They placed the infant in a basket, and carried it to the banks of the Saraswati to carry out the orders. Their hearts melting with pity at the sight of such a beautiful innocent babe, these assassins shrank from perpetrating such a cruel deed, and leaving the infant alive in a neighbouring jungle, they returned to their homes. Happily at that very moment Guru Dattatreya and his disciple Gorakhanath, who were going to Girnar, from their pilgrimage to Mount Abu, happened to pass by that way, while going to bathe in the river Saraswati. Hearing the cries of an infant proceeding from the neighbouring jungle, Dattatreya ordered his disciple to find out the babe and bring it to him. When the child was brought to him, he said:—‘ It has not yet been weaned, and as a mother’s milk is the only nourishment upon which it can live and grow, we cannot afford to carry it with us. It would be best if we entrust it to the care of its tutelary

* The account of Mulraj’s birth and rise, as also the account of his father, Raj, and his blind uncle, Bij, are all quasi-historical, being taken from bardic narrations; but we have introduced them here at full length, only because the episodes are interesting. According to some writers, Jaskinwacha alias Liladevi expired, while Mulraj was still in her womb, and the babe was taken out alive on the burning ground. According to the account given by us Liladevi long survived the birth of her child. Forbes, in his *Rasmala* (see *Rasmala*, account of Jagdev Parmar) and other English as well as native writers of renown have relied on the tradition popularly in vogue that Mulraj was extracted out of his mother’s womb. We are not prepared definitely to say which of the accounts is correct, but leave it to our readers to decide for themselves.

goddess.' So saying, the sage contemplated upon that divine mother, and Khimaja, the family goddess of the Solankis, made her appearance in the form of a tigress. The child was made over to that wild beast, who reared it for twelve years, along with her other cubs. When the predestined term of exile was over, fate carried Samat Sinhji to that very forest, where the infant was staying, and, attended by his retinue, the lord of Gujarat one day went to that forest on a hunting expedition. His companions beheld human foot-prints mingled with those of tiger cubs, and struck with amazement they showed them to their monarch. Samat Sinhji ordered them to search the forest, and said that if a human infant were found, he would carry it to his palace and make it his son and heir. He then caused deep pits to be dug round the forest, and ordered the villagers to beat the jungle and set it on fire. The tigress with her cubs leapt over the pits, but the young Mulraj, though he could get over one of them, fell head-long into the other. He was caught by his pursuers and brought to the presence of Samat Sinhji. Thinking that such a beastly-looking child would not create a favourable impression on the mind of his consort, as well as his courtiers, the Raja, on entering the city, entrusted the child to his family-priest, ordering him to properly educate the boy, and on his acquiring a complete knowledge of the science of Government, bring him to the Darbar, on the Dassera holiday. The appointed day at last dawned, and the priest led the boy, who had, by that time become, an accomplished and a refined prince, to the Darbar. On entering the audience chamber, the precocious child made obeisance to Samat Sinhji, calling him his maternal uncle. The priest, in submission, told the Raja that the prince had received all the necessary training; where upon the monarch ordered him to be placed in charge of his sister, Liladevi, as he had of his own accord called him uncle. Bij, who was even then residing at the court of Samat Sinhji, approached his brother's widow and said:—"Think not this boy to be a stranger. He is none else than that boy of yours, whom, some years back you sent to the neighbouring woods to be assassinated. His period of exile is over, and according to that priest's prediction he will now be the lord of Gujarat. The boy thrived at his uncle's court, where, by his affability, he gained the esteem and affection of all with whom he came in contact. Once, under the effects of wine, Samat Sinhji transferred the crown from his head to that of his nephew, Mulraj, and publicly declared him the sole monarch of Gujarat. Recovering from unconsciousness brought about by intoxication, he annulled the previous arrangement, and

demanding the royal *insignia* back from Mulraj. He was not, however, a youth to be thus trifled with, and he boldly refused to part with the *Raj*, bestowed upon him. He then treacherously murdered his uncle and such of his kinsmen as stood in his way, and assumed the reins of Government in his own hands. Such were the circumstances under which the Solankis became the rulers of Gujarat.

In that dynasty, six degrees removed from Mulraj, there flourished the far-famed Maharaja Siddharaj Jai Sinh, who was, after his death in 1143, succeeded by Kumar Pal. Arno Raj Solanki was related to this monarch on his father's side, as also he was the son of his maternal aunt. Kumar Pal had given him in appanage the village of Vaghel, from which his descendants acquired the name of Vaghelas. After Kumar Pal's death, the *gadi* of Anhilwad Patan was successively occupied by Ajepal, Mulraj II and Bhim Dev II, more popularly known by the name of Bholo Bhim Dev.

Bhim Dev had made Lavan Prasad, the son of Arno Raj Vaghela, his prime minister, but the master and the servant disagreeing with each other, the latter appropriated to himself all the territories, lying between the rivers Nabada and Sabarmati, and the districts of Dholka and Dhandhuka, and set up an independent rule at Dholka. Viradhaval, the son and successor of Lavan Prasad, enhanced the territorial extent of his paternal estate. Dying in 1240, Viradhaval was succeeded by Vishal Dev. He waged war with Tribhovan Pal, the last of the Solanki Rajas of Gujarat, and invaded his capital in 1244. He succeeded in snatching from that *effete* prince, the sceptre of Gujarat, and from that date the ruling house of Solanki became extinct, giving place to the Vaghelas. Vishal Dev assumed the title of "Maharajadhiraj," and became the sole monarch of Gujarat.

Maharaja Vishal Dev was followed, in order of succession, by Arjun Dev, Sarang Dev and Karan. During the reign of the last named monarch, Alla-ud-Din Khilji, the Emperor of Delhi, instigated by Madhava,* the much

* Karan is more popularly known in Gujarat by the name of Karan Ghelo. Madhava, a Nagar Brahman by caste, was his minister, who had an exceedingly beautiful wife, named Rupsundari. Karan, happening to see her once, was infatuated with her charms, and removing Madhava from the capital, he ordered his men to proceed to the minister's house and forcibly admit his wife into his seraglio. In the scuffle, Keshava, the brother of the minister, fell while bravely defending the chastity of his sister-in-law. Keshava's wife, Gunsundari, became Sutte. Madhava, burning with a desire to take revenge, went to Delhi, and saving the life of the heir-apparent, Khizar Khan, obtained an interview with Emperor Alla-ud-Din, and begged of him to send his troops for the conquest of Gujarat.

aggrieved minister of Karan, despatched his troops against Gujarat, under the command of Afzul Khan and Nasrat Khan in 1304. Karan offered them a strong resistance, but was repulsed with heavy loss. Flying from the field mortally wounded, he took shelter in the hill-fort of Baglan in the Deccan.

Afzul Khan, the commander of the Emperor's troops, sent Karan's wives to Delhi as captives of war. One of them Kamladevi, who stood unsurpassed in beauty, was admitted into the Royal harem, where she became the most favourite consort of the Emperor. By her late husband, Karan, she had a daughter named Devaldevi, who resided with her father, Karan, at Baglan. The Sultana once expressed her desire to have her child by her side, and Alla-ud-Din, ever fond of conquest, despatched an army towards the Deccan, under the command of Malek Kafur, whom he ordered to bring Devaldevi from the fortress of Baglan. Karan obtaining the assistance of the neighbouring chief of Devagarh, fought with the Mussulmans, but was defeated, and his daughter carried away to Delhi. The unfortunate monarch of Gujarat fled from Baglan, and died a miserable death, wandering in adjacent hills and jungles. He had two sons, Sarang Dev and Vir Sinh, of whom the elder had received, during his father's life-time, an estate, comprising 650 villages in the district of Bhildi; while to the younger was granted an equally large estate of 650 villages in the district of Sardhar. Nothing is known about the fate of these two princes after the flight of their father and his death. The modern Bhiladia and Sardhara Vaghelas claim to be the descendants of these two brothers.

In 1304 the Hindu rule in Gujarat was thus brought to a close by the Mahomedans, who established their sway over the whole province. During the earlier years of the new regime the government was carried on by a representative of the Grand Monarch, who was styled the Subehdar of Gujarat. The last of these Subehdars, Jaffar Khan, throwing off the yoke of the central government at Delhi, raised his son, Mahomed Shah I. to the position of an independent Sultan of Gujarat. Mahomed Shah was succeeded by Muzaffar Shah I. who was followed by Ahmed Shah, who ascended the throne in 1411. Next year, he founded the city of Ahmeda-

bad, and transferring his seat of government from Patan to the new city, reigned there till his death in 1441.

After the conquest of Gujarat in 1304, the kinsmen of the last Vaghela ruler, as well as his feudatories, raising their heads against the new government, went into out-lawry against the Mahomedan usurpers. Mahip, a Vaghela chief, had two sons Varhoji and Jetoji, who lived at a time, when Ahmed Shah was reigning over Gujarat. They were leading the lives of out-laws and were constantly harassing the subjects of the Shah. On a certain Friday, (a day held sacred by the Mussalmans) according to their usual practice, the royal consort, attended by the wives of the leading aristocracy, went to the mosque of Pir at Makarva's *Roja* near the famous Mausoleum of Sarkhej. The Vaghela brothers and their associates, taking advantage of this circumstance, ran to the spot, and surrounded the ladies on all sides. The Begam in confusion asked who they were, and what had brought them thither. The Vaghela chiefs respectfully replied that their names were Varhoji and Jetoji, that they had lost all their lands, and that they had ventured to approach the queen's presence to die at her feet ; for, they added, they had resolved to carry her away with all her companions. The Hourma, (the Sultan's Begam) overcome with fear, entreated them to spare her honour, saying that on her safe return to the capital, she would persuade her husband to give them back their lost possessions. On the Begam taking a solemn pledge, they allowed her, with her companions, to return to their chariots, standing close by. When the Padshah came to the Begam's palace she related to him everything that had occurred that evening, adding that she had given them her word to prevail upon him to return them their estates. She therefore entreated her husband to call them to his presence, and hand over to them their estates in fulfilment of her pledge. The Emperor summoned them to the capital, guaranteeing them their lives, and on their arrival there, received them with great cordiality. The Vaghela brothers, Varhoji and Jetoji, moved with gratitude, resolved to further cement their connection with the Emperor, by bestowing upon him the hand of their fair sister, Lalan. The Emperor, highly flattered at the honour conferred upon him, accepted for his bride, the beautiful Rajputani of such noble extraction. He further

conferred upon the two brothers* a rich estate, comprising 500 villages. On a partition between them, 250 villages, including Kalol, fell to the share of Jetoji, while Varhoji obtained the remaining 250 villages with Sanand as his capital.

Such is the origin of the two separate branches of the Kalol and Sanand Vaghelas.† Upto 1728 the descendants of Jetoji ruled at Kalol, when Bhagwan Sinhji, losing Kalol, shifted his seat of government to Linabodra. This town is situated in the northern portion of the Kadi division, in H. H. the Gaekwad's dominions.

In the line of Jetoji, the founder of the Kalol branch, there flourished, several degrees removed from him, one Lunakaranji, who once proceeded with his retinue on a pilgrimage to the sacred river Rewaji (Narbada). On his way thither he once lay encamped near Vasad, on the banks of the river Mahi. While taking repose, he heard a Brahman, residing in the neighbouring village of Angarh, then held by the Kolis, crying out 'Help ho! they are killing me.' Lunakaranji called him to his presence, and asked him to narrate his account. The Brahman, with tears in his eyes, said 'Sire! you are the protector of cows and Brahmans, I have come to seek your protection against the oppression of the Koli chiefs of Angarh. I have a fair daughter, who is pronounced to be Padmini, and a Koli, named Bhikhmal, wants to marry her against my wish. Our honour and lives are now in your hands.' So saying the Brahman placed his head at the Vaghela's feet, who consoled him by assuring him that the sword of a *Kshatriya* would never remain sheathed when required to protect the life and honour of a Brahman. He asked him to return to his village, and, finding out a suitable husband, for his daughter, of his own caste, make all preparations for marriage, under the pretext that he was willing to give his daughter to Bhikhmal, whom he should entrap in the snare thus laid

* We cannot vouchsafe for the correctness of the account of the Vaghela house after the death of Karan. There is a difference of opinion among the writers of the history of Gujarat as to whether Karan had left any sons or not. We have given here what we were able to glean from different accounts published and unpublished, which are extant in the country.

† The Vaghela chief of Sanand resides at Koth. Both Sanand and Koth are in the Ahmedabad Collectorate. The chief of Koth still holds a Wanta in Sanand. Koth is the largest of all the possessions of Vaghelas in Gujarat. Its annual income amounts to Rs. 1,25,000. The name of the present chief is Rammal Sinhji, the son of Rupaliba. He is a Talukdar holding land in the British Zillah.

out for him. He would then follow him in the morning and do the needful. The Brahman, glad at heart, returned to Angarh, and made all preparations for the marriage. Bhikhamal was asked to proceed to the bride's house next morning with his friends and relations. At the appointed hour Lunakaranji, with his comrades, entered Angarh, and killing Bhikhamal with 250 of his associates, married the Brahman's daughter to a bride-groom of her own community. Lunakaranji retained possession of Angarh, and, building a strong wall round the village, extended his conquest to the neighbouring villages, and established an independent principality, with Angarh as his capital.

Lunakaranji was, after his death, succeeded by Lagdhirji, after whom the estate was successively held by Pragji, Pratham Sinhji, Seshamalji, Jodhaji, Gaj Sinhji, Vije Palji, Hamirji, Gangji, Arjanji, Adebhanji, Bharmalji I., Bhojrajji, Mirji, Keshari Sinhji, Karanji, Vaje Sinhji, Sarangji, Sakhraji, Saltanji, Bharmalji II., Bhupalji, Akherajji, Bhikharji and Ajoji. Hingolji, the younger brother of the last named monarch, obtained from him 18 villages for his maintenance, while he himself resided in the hill-fort of Pawagarh. Ajoji had three sons, Sarangji, Khetaji and Vinchhiji, of whom Sarangji had died childless during his father's life-time. Khetaji inherited the estate, from whom Jhanjhanji, the son of his younger brother, Vinchhiji, obtained 18 villages, including Sherkhi for the maintenance of himself and his descendants.

Khetaji had two sons Kikoji and Pratham Sinhji, of whom Kikoji embraced Islamism at the instance of the Emperor, who gave him a rich appanage, allowing him to retain possession of Angarh. Pratham Sinhji removed his seat of government to Jaspur, a village a few miles to the south of Angarh. He erected a fortification and began to rule there from the year 1483.

Pratham Sinhji was, after his death, succeeded by his son, Jai Sinhji. He had two sons Pragji and Asji, of whom the elder inherited the estate of Jaspur, while Asji obtained for his maintenance the village of Undera.

Pragji left behind him four sons :—(1) Ade Sinhji, (2) Krishna Dasji, (3) Kalyanmalji, and (4) Har Dasji; of whom, the heir-apparent, Ade Sinhji obtained the *gadi*. The other princes received only fixed annual charges for their maintenance. Ade Sinhji had two sons, Prithirajji and Govind Dasji; of whom the younger, Govind Dasji, obtained the village of Poichha in perpetual grant to cover the expenses of his living. Prithirajji succeeded to the *gadi*, after the death of his father in 1565.

Six sons were born to Prithirajji, of whom the eldest was Saltan-Sinhji; the others were:—Viramji, Ratan Sinhji, Samar Sinhji, Raghava Dasji and Ram Sinhji. The villages of Amla, Sejakuvo and Itola were granted to Ratan Sinhji for his maintenance, while the eldest ascended the *gadi* on his father's death, with the title of Saltan Sinhji II. He was the father of five sons:—Gaj Sinhji, Agoji, Rupoji, Jagtoji and Sur Dasji. Of them Rupoji alone was granted a maintenance allowance from the village of Lasundra; and the heir-apparent, Gaj Sinhji, was raised to the *gadi* after his father. Of Gaj Sinhji there were eleven sons:—(1) Dalpat Sinhji, (2) Jasant Sinhji, (3) Chandoji, (4) Hathiji, (5) Meloji, (6) Makanji, (7) Malji, (8) Ranchhodji, (9) Karan Sinhji, (10) Chhangji, and (11) Tej Sinhji. In due course of time, Dalpat Sinhji came to the *gadi*, while of the remaining ten, Malji was granted 400 *bighas* of soil from the village of Jaspur. Ranchhodji obtained several tracts of land, lying about the villages of Vadsar, Makarpura, Samiyala, Naugamu and Virode. The three sons of Chhangji obtained for their maintenance thirty *bighas* of land from Bhadarva, 24 *bighas* from the village of Jaspur and twelve from Namisara. They were also granted some lands in Bil, Karali and Chansad, together with ten Chikasi coins, then current, which were awarded to each of them for their subsistence.

Dalpat Sinhji left after him two sons Prathirajji and Jai Sinhji, of whom the elder—Prathirajji II. succeeded to the *gadi*, on the demise of his father. Jai Sinhji was granted a maintenance allowance from the village of Jaspur. In the year 1677, Prathirajji proceeded to Bahidhara, where he erected a strong fastness on a naturally elevated site, on the high banks of the river Mahi. Under the shelter of this strong-hold he was able to protect his little *Raj*, till his death in the year 1720. He was succeeded by his son,—Sardar Sinhji. This chief was a pleasure-seeker, and remained wholly engrossed in sensuous delights. The favourite inmates of his seraglio became the prime-movers of all the intrigues at his court. In the year 1732, Ude Sinhji ascended the *gadi* on the death of his father, Sardar Sinhji. He could not pull on well with his mother, and as a result of this quarrel, the chief proceeded to Bhadarva, where he set up a new *Thakarati* for himself. He expired in 1781, leaving his son, Dalpat Sinhji II., on the *gadi* of Bhadarva. The new chief did not long survive his father, for two years later, in 1783, he also was joined to his ancestors. Kumvar Pratap Sinhji next ascended the *gadi* of Bhadarva. For a long time, he had no son born to him; consequently his two Ranees—Takhatba and Surajba, sepa-

rately adopted two young boys—Jalam Sinhji and Sardar Sinhji, as heirs to the throne. In the year 1825, when Pratap Sinhji died, a quarrel for succession arose between the two adopted heirs. Both of them vigorously pressed their claims to the *gadi*, till at last Jalam Sinhji, backed up by all the influence of Maharaja Gaekwad, was able to secure the prize for himself. His injured rival, Sardar Sinhji, displeased with the result of the contest, went into outlawry in 1829. Assisted by large bands of followers, the outlaw succeeded in investing the village of Vankaner, but he was forced to raise the siege by the timely succour of British troops. He took to his heels before the English army, and concealed himself in the inaccessible ravines on the banks of the Mahi. From this hiding-place, he, from time to time, surprized the adjacent villages and plundered the defenceless ryots. He persisted in this strife, till at last in 1833-34, the two contending rivals referred their disputes to arbitration, and the estate of Bhadarva was portioned out between them. In accordance with this award, Bhadarva remained in the possession of Jalam Sinhji, while Sardar-Sinhji obtained the estate of Vankaner.

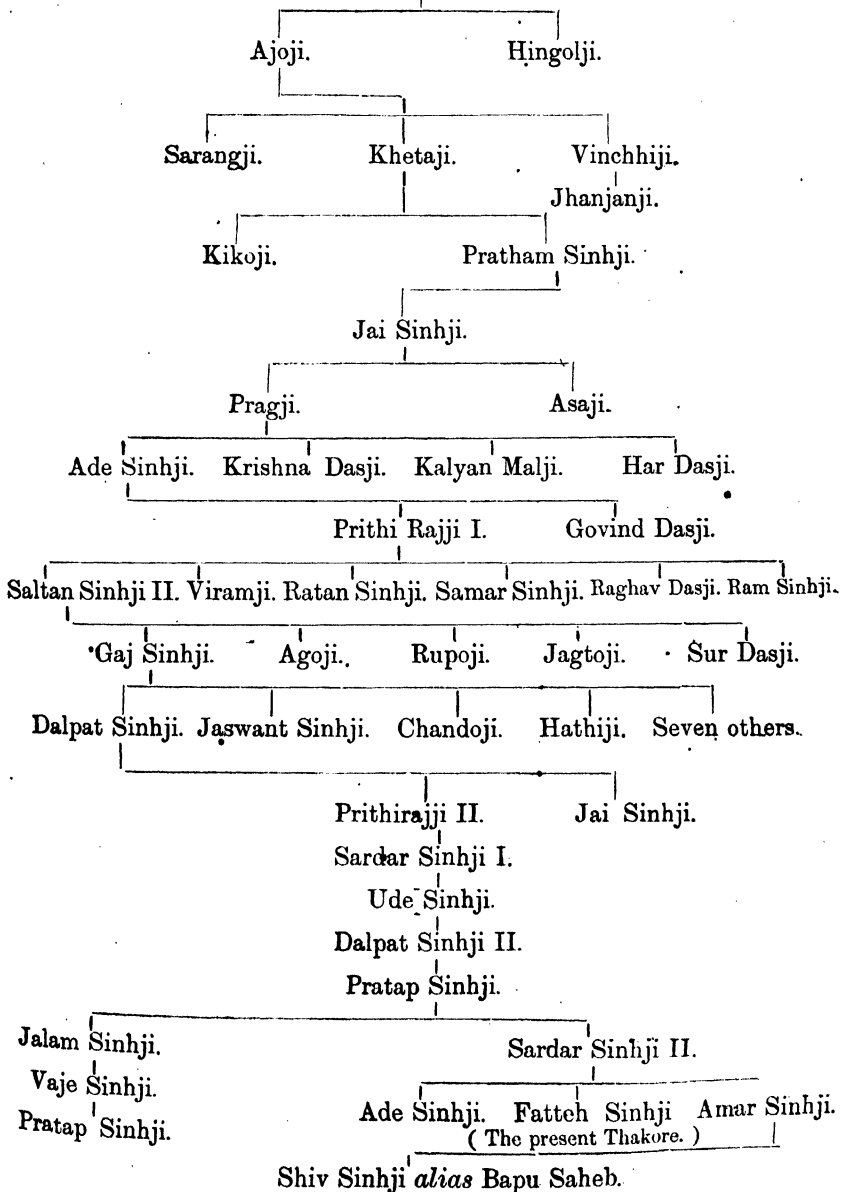
In the year 1840, Jalam Sinhji expired, and Sardar Sinhji again brought forward his claims to the *gadi*. He succeeded in his suit, as Vaje Sinhji, the reputed son of Jalam Sinhji, was declared by the British Government to be a spurious and got-up offspring of the late chief. On Sardar Sinhji's accession to the *gadi* the estates of Bhadarva and Vankaner were again united in the person of one ruler.

Sardar Sinhji died in the year 1879. His two sons, Ade Sinhji and Fatteh Sinhji, contested the succession to the *gadi*, and Bhadarva again presented a scene of family feuds and intrigues. Fatteh Sinhji rested his claims upon his blood-relationship with the deceased Thakore. Ade Sinhji, according to his rival's contention, though senior, was only an adopted child. The claim of seniority urged by Ade Sinhji was, however, approved of by the British Government, and he was finally confirmed on the Bhadarva *gadi*. He ruled for nine years and expired in 1888. He left no son behind him; the succession to the *gadi*, consequently, passed to Fatteh Sinhji, whose claim had been rejected in the previous contest. Fatteh Sinhji is the present ruling chief of Bhadarva, and enjoys first class magisterial powers, which entitle him to inflict punishment for two years' rigorous imprisonment, and fine up to the amount of 1,000 rupees. In civil suits his powers are unlimited.

Genealogical tree.

Lunkaranji, Lagadhirji, Pragji, Pratham Sinhji, Seshamalji, Jodhaji.

Gaj Sinhji, Vije Palji, Hamirji, Gangji, Arjanji, Adebhanji, Bharmalji I., Bhojraji, Mirji, Keshari Sinhji, Karanji, Vaje Sinhji, Sarangji, Sakhraji, Saltanji, Bharmalji II., Bhupalji, Akherajji, and—
Bhikharji.



Residence.—Bhadarva, Rewa Kantha; Bombay Presidency.

BHADAURA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—3,111.

Revenue.—7,000 rupees.

In the year 1820, Raja Man Sinh undertook to suppress the robberies committed by a Girasia, named Sohan Sinh, in consideration whereof Maharaja Daulat Rao Sindhia conferred on him a *jagir*, consisting of five villages, through the mediation of the British Political officer. Under the grant, Man Sinh was to hold those villages on a quit-rent tenure, which entitled him to retain to himself half of the annual income of the villages, then amounting to Rs. 21,300, while he undertook to return the other half to his grantor, Maharaja Sindhia.

The chiefs of Bhadaura are Sessodiya Rajputs, and were in the enjoyment of several of their possessions long before the Marathas made their inroads upon Central India. Raja Man Sinh was succeeded by Mohan Sinh, who, dying in 1876, was succeeded by Madan Sinh. On the death of Madan Sinh, in 1882, his only son, Madhav Sinh, then a boy aged only six years, was recognised by the India Government, as his heir and successor. During his minority the State was managed by a native officer, under the direct control and supervision of the Assistant Political Agent. Madhav Sinh was installed on the hereditary *gadi* in 1886,] with the previous sanction of the Supreme Government.

Though the chiefs of Bhadaura are merely the feudatories of H. H. Maharaja Sindhia, yet on the two occasions of the installation of Mohan Sinh and Madan Sinh the sanction of the Government of India was obtained without the mediation of the Gwalior Darbar; however, on each of these occasions, the Gwalior Vakil was present at the investiture ceremony. The Maharaja Sindhia is not empowered to directly interfere with the internal management of the estate, and all boundary disputes between Gwalior and Bhadaura have been, as a rule, decided by British officers. Besides the five villages granted by Daulat Rao Sindhia to Raja Man Sinh, the estate comprises within its area the villages of Bhadaura and Rai Baisi, the former of which was granted originally to the Umri family by Emperor Shah Jehan, in 1634, but was, subsequently, made over to the present

holders of the *jagir*, while the latter was granted by Chhatra Sinh, the chief of Narwar, in 1731.

Genealogical tree.

Man Sinh.

|

Mohan Sinh,

|

Madan Sinh.

|

Madhav Sinh.

(The present Raja.)

Residence.—Bhadaura, Gwalior Agency; Central India,

BHADLI.

Area.—13 sq. miles. Population.—4,100.

Revenue.—25,000 rupees.

Bhadli was in ancient times the famous residence of the Sarvaiya Rajputs, who were the *Bhayads* of the Chudasama rulers of Junagarh and who were then known by the name of 'Rav.' From these Rajputs it was conquered by the Kathis of Khachar sept, in the eighteenth century, whose descendants, Champraj, Oghad, Rukhad, Rawat, Dada and Dewait are the present share-holders. They pay a tribute of Rs. 1,101, to the British Government and Rs. 256, to His Highness the Nawab of Junagarh, as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The first of these share-holders is enlisted in the sixth class among the Rajas of Kathiawad, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for three months, and fine upto Rs. 200, while in civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose of suits upto the value of Rs. 500. Bhadli is 18 miles distant from the Ningala Railway Station.

Residence.—Bhadli, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

BHADWA.

Area.—7 sq. miles. Population.—1,250.

Revenue.—11,000 rupees.

This Taluka was received in *Giras* by Hakoji, a Rajput of the Jadeja

clan, the third son of Sangoji, the founder of the Kotada-Sangani State. Bhav Sinh is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 1,394 to the British Government, and Rs. 238 to His Highness the Nawab of Junagarh, as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. He is enlisted in the sixth class among the Rajas of Kathiawad, and enjoys the same civil and criminal powers as the principal Talukdar of Bhadli. Bhadwa is 13 miles distant from Gondak.

Residence.—Bhadwa, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

BHADWANA.

Area.—15 sq. miles. Population.—951.

Revenue.—5,544 rupees,

Khodabhai, Nahar Sinh and Kesari Sinh, Jhala Rajputs, by caste, are the present Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 998 is paid by them to the British Government, and Rs. 83 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have three independent tribute-payers. None of them enjoys civil and criminal powers. Bhadwana is 5 miles distant from the Lakhtar Railway Station.

Residence.—Bhadwana, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

BHAISOLA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—3,089.

Revenue.—12,000 rupees.

Chandra Sinh was the reigning Thakore of Bhaisola in 1818, when Sir John Malcolm carried out the celebrated settlement of Malwa. By an agreement between the Thakore and the chief of Dhar the former agreed to pay to the latter Rs. 2,501 every year. This payment was to be made direct to the Dhar state without being subject to any deductions. The Thakore further bound himself not to hold other villages except those mentioned in the *Sanad*. He also accepted the obligation of annually submitting to the Darbar the reports of crimes committed within his dominions. Chandra Sinhi died in 1839, and was succeeded by his

brother, Hamir Sinh, who, dying in 1842, was succeeded by his adopted nephew, Bhim Sinh. He lived till 1892, when after his death his minor son, Unkar Sinh, the present Thakore inherited the estate.

Genealogical tree.

Chandra Sinh.
|
Hamir Sinh,
|
Bhim Sinh (nephew).
|
Unkar Sinh.

(The present Thakore).

Residence.—Bhaisola, Bhopawar Agency ; Central India.

BHAJJI.

Area.—91 sq. miles. Population.—12,205.

Revenue.—23,000 rupees.

It is one of the Simla Hill States, first acquired in early times by a Rajput adventurer of fortune, who migrated there from Kangra, and received the possession of the state by conquest. Bhajji was overrun by the Gurkhas, but on their being vanquished by the English in 1815, Rudar pal, the Rana, was confirmed in his estate by the Supreme Government by a *Sanad*, dated 4th September 1815. In 1842 he abdicated the *gádi* in favour of his son, Rana Ran Bahadur Sinh, who was installed on the 25th of April 1844. He was succeeded by his son, who assumed management over his *jagir*, on 18th November 1875. The chief of this State has the power to award any sentence short of death and is required to have the confirmation of the Superintendent of the Hill States in the case of capital punishment.

Residence.—Bhajji, Simla Hill States, Punjab ; Northern India.

BHALALA.

Area.—6 sq. miles. Population.—550.

Revenue.—2,045 rupees.

Madar Sinh, Udai Sinh and Bhagwat Sinh, the present Talukdars,

belong to the Jhala Rajput caste. None of them enjoys civil and criminal powers. A tribute of Rs. 474 is paid by them to the British Government. They have three independent tribute-payers. Bhalala is 6 miles distant from the Sitapur Road Railway Station.

Residence.—Bhalala, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

BHALGAM BULDHOI.

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—732.

Revenue.—2000 rupees.

Jassa and Abhoji, by caste, Vala Kathis, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 204 to the British Government and Rs. 58 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have two independent tribute-payers. They have no civil and criminal powers.

Residence.—Bhalgam Buldhoi, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

BHALGAMRA.

Area.—19 sq. miles. Population.—2300.

Revenue.—11,831 rupees.

Narsinhji, Harbhamji and Bhimabhai Jhala Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 1400 to the British Government and Rs. 105 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have three independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them.

Residence.—Bhalgamra, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

BHALUSNA.

Area.—59 sq. miles. Population.—4,000.

Revenue.—4,920 rupees.

Mul Sinh, a Chauhan Koli, by caste, is the present Talukadar. He

MINOR STATES.

(65)

pays a tribute of Rs. 1,160 to H. H. the Maharaja of Idar. He is enlisted in the sixth class; so he is empowered to inflict rigorous imprisonment for three months and fine upto Rs. 200, while in civil matters he is empowered to hear and dispose of suits to the value of Rs. 500.

Residence. — Bhalusna, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

BHANDARIA.

Area.— 3 sq. miles. Population.—925.

Revenue.— 4,800 rupees.

Vansa, Harsur and Mansur, by caste, Ahirs, of the Kamaliya clan, are the present Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 307 is paid by them to the Baroda State and Rs. 15 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have three independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them. Bhandaria is 2 miles distant from the town of Chok.

Residence.—Bhandaria, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

BHAREJDA.

Area.— 2sq. miles. Population.—500.

Revenue.—2,465.

The village of Bharejda was granted by a Kathi of Dhandhalpur to his *Bhanej* (sister's son), named Bhanbhla, a Kathi, and hence it was named Bhanejda which afterwards being corrupted was called Bharejda. At present it is held by Bhanbhla Kathis named Oghad and Punja. These Talukdars pay a tribute of Rs. 94 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. They enjoy no civil and criminal powers. Bharejda is 6 miles south-west from the Chuda Railway Station.

Residence.—Bharejda, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

BHARADPURA.

Area.—unknown. Population.—1,868.

Revenue.—3,000 rupees.

Udai Sinh, the reigning Bhumia of Bharatpura, is one of the descendants

of Jujhar Singh of Garhi, and is the grand-son of Manrup Singh, who held the estate at the time of Sir John Malcolm's Settlement of Malwa. Through the mediation of that astute British officer, two engagements were entered into between Manrup Singh and the chief of Dhar. By the first of these the Bhumia held himself responsible for all highway robberies committed between the Manand and Karam rivers. For this he was allowed every year a sum of Rs. 500 from the Dharampuri district. By the second agreement the Bhumia was granted in perpetuity six villages in the Dharampuri district, on an yearly payment of Rs. 525, and one village on a payment of Rs 201 every year. These two agreements were subsequently consolidated and modified into one agreement, by which the Bhumia retained possession of three villages on an annual payment of Rs. 327. Though the subsequent arrangement was not arrived at through the mediation of the British Government, yet the old guarantee is held to extend to so much of the Settlement that is still operative. Besides these villages in the Dharampuri district, the Bhumia owns in perpetuity the village of Kunripura in Mandu paying Rs. 500 a year. In return he holds himself answerable for all the crimes committed in the village and is also bound to render military service to his liege-lord.

The estate has been under the direct control and supervision of the British Political Agent, since 1876 on account of its increasing indebtedness.

Residence.—Bharadpura, Bhopawar Agency; Central India.

BHATHAN.

Area.—4 sq. miles. Population.—700.

Revenue.—3,159 rupees.

Pataji and Harbhamji, by caste, Jhala Rajputs; are the present Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 641 is paid by them to the British Government and Rs. 60 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have two independent tribute-payers. They have no civil and criminal powers. Bhathan is 11 miles distant from the Limbdi Railway Station.

Residence.—Bhathan, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

BHATKHERI.

Area.—unknown. Population.—2,234.

Revenue.—25,000 rupees.

Rawat Karan Sinhji, a Chandrawat Rajput, was the reigning Thakore with whom the British Government effected a Settlement by which the British guarantee was extended to the estate of Bhatkheri. H. H. Maharaja Holkar attempted in 1890 to exercise his sovereign rights by buying the *Sirdeshmukhi* cess on the annual revenues of the estate; but the Holkar claimed exemption on the strength of the British guarantee, and the Political Agent dissuaded the Maharaja Holkar from buying the cess. The Rawat of Bhatkheri, on the other hand, is entitled to levy 'Khunt' *vero* and 'Deshi-kodi' tax. Besides holding *inami* lands in the villages of Gopal-pura, Nalwa, and Mokhadli, the Rawat also owns the villages of Bhadana and Bukhtani on *Istimrari* tenure, on payments to Holkar of a mere nominal rent of Rs. 601 a year. The Rawat enjoys civil and criminal jurisdiction within his territories, though the more heinous offences are held cognisable by the British Political Agent.

Thakore Jorawar Sinh died in 1861, and was succeeded by his son, Rawat Shiv Sinh. He expired in October 1891, and was, with the usual sanction of the India Government, succeeded by the present Thakore, Sajan Sinh. He is still a minor, and the management of the estate is carried on by Kishanlal, a trusted adviser of the deceased Thakore.

Residence.—Bhatkheri, Western Malwa Agency; Central India.

BHILODIA.

Area.—5 sq. miles. Population.—unknown.

Revenue.—13,091. rupees.

Rae Sinhji and Hari Sinhji, by caste, Chavda Rajputs, are the present Talukdars. Their ancestors, after the fall of Champaner in 1484, founded this Taluka. A tribute of Rs. 2,426 is paid by them to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them.

Residence.—Bhilodia, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

BHIMORA,

Area.—36 sq. miles. Population.—800.

Revenue.—8,133 rupees.

Odha and Desa, by caste, Kathis of the Khachar clan, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 307½ to the British Government and Rs. 63½ to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. They have two independent tribute-payers. They have no civil and criminal powers. Bhimora is 8 miles to the south of Chotila.

Residence.—Bhimora, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

BHOIKA.

Area.—30 sq. miles. Population.—4,325.

Revenue.—13,000 rupees.

Chandra Sinhji, by caste, a Jhala Rajput, is the principal of the share-holders. Their ancestors received this Taluka as *Jivai* in *Girass* from the Thakore of Limbdi. A tribute of Rs. 1,759 is paid by them to the British Government and Rs. 279 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have one independent tribute-payer. The chief shareholder is enlisted in the sixth class, so his criminal powers empower to inflict him rigorous imprisonment for three months and fine upto Rs. 200, while in civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose of suits to the value of Rs. 300. No civil and criminal powers are granted to other share-holders. Bhoika is 7 miles south-east from the Railway Station of Limbdi.

Residence.—Bhoika, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

BHOJAKHERI.

Area.—unknown. Population.—250.

Revenue.—2,000 rupees.

It was in the month of August 1820 that a Settlement was effected through the mediation of Captain Borthwick, by which the Thakore of Bhojakeri received under British guarantee the village of Sidra in the Gangra

district, now subject to the Jhalawad State, on an annual payment of Rs. 100 to the parent state. At the time of the passing of that agreement the estate of Bhojakheri was held by Rawat Durjan Singh, whose descendant, Bhawani Singh, is now in charge of the *jagir*.

Residence.—Bhojakheri, Western Malwa Agency ; Central India.

BHOJAWADDAR.

Area.—3 sq. miles. Population.—1,125.

Revenue.—5,000 rupees.

Jalam Singh and Man Singh, Gohel Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 411 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda, and Rs. 139 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have two independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are granted to them. Bhojawaddar is 3 miles north-west from the Dhola Railway Station.

Residence.—Bhojawaddar, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

BHOR.

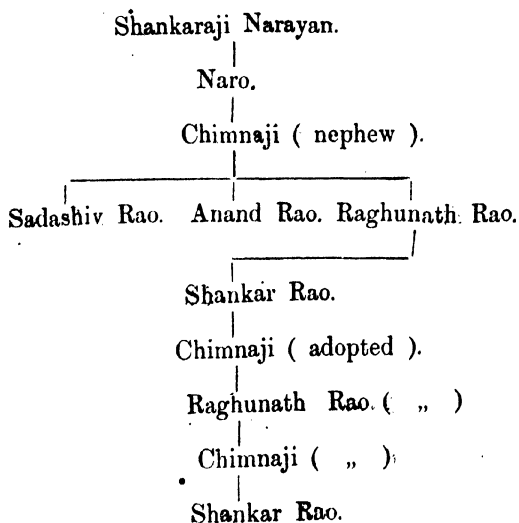
Area.—1491 sq miles. Population.—155,488

Revenue.—4,22,436 rupees.

During the nonage of Rajaram, the son of Shivaji, the Government of Satara was carried on by Tarabai, when the military department was under the supervision of Dhanaji Janardhan, while the civil administration was solely conducted by Shankaraji Narayan, *Pant Sachiv* (1697). In addition to that influential post, the *Pant Sachiv* held several *Jagiri* villages and rent-free lands. After the return of Shahu to Satara, Shankaraji, finding his fortunes on the decline, terminated his life with his own hands at Ambewadi in the year 1707. Shankaraji Narayan was, after his death, succeeded by his son, Naro. He died in March 1737, and was succeeded by his nephew, Chimnaji. In 1757 Chimnaji died, leaving after him three sons, Sadashiv Rao, Anand Rao and Raghunath Rao, of whom the eldest, Sadashiv Rao, inherited his father's estate and position. He enjoyed his dignity till 1787, when, after his death, he was succeeded by his youngest brother, Raghunath Rao. In 1791 died Raghunath Rao, and his son, Shankar-

Rao, became the *Pant Sachiv*. As he had no male issue, he adopted as his heir and successor, one Chimnaji, who on his death in 1798, became the *Pant Sachiv*. Chimnaji continued to be in the service of the Peshwas till their downfall in 1818. He died in 1827, and was succeeded by his adopted son, Raghunath Rao. For this adoption, a *Nazarana* of Rs. 40,000 had to be paid to the Raja of Satara. As he had no male issue, he in 1836 adopted, with the sanction of his liege-lord, one Chimnaji, who succeeded him to the *Sachivship* in 1839. He enjoyed his dignity for 32 years, when after his death on 12th February 1871, the present *Pant Sachiv*, Shankar Rao, assumed the management of the estate. During his minority a native officer was appointed by the Supreme Government to manage the affairs of the estate. The *Pant Sachiv* attained the age of 21 years in 1874, when he was put in sole possession of his *jagir*. He ranks among the first class Sardars of the Deccan and is a Brahmin by caste. He pays to the British Government a nominal tribute of upwards of Rs. 5000 a year on account of *Pilkhana* or Elephant stables.

Genealogical tree.



(The present chief).

Residence.—Bhor, Satara District ; Bombay Presidency.

BICHHRAUD. (I)

The Thakore of Bichhraud receives annually, through the Political Agent of Western Malwa, a fixed allowance of Rs. 820 a year, from Mahārāja Sindhia, while he directly receives every year Rs. 100 and Rs. 43-8 from Maharaja Holkar, and the Chief of Dewas respectively. Over and above the receipt of these cash allowances, the Thakore holds in *jagir* 20 *bigas* of land in the village of Kharkari, belonging to Sindhia. He also claims to have some interest in the village of Bichhraud, but in the absence of any *Sanaḍ* to substantiate such a vague allegation, his claim to a share in the quit-rent tenure of that village has not been allowed. It was Thakore Garwar Singh with whom the first Settlement was effected. After his death his grandson, Madhav Singh, has succeeded to his rights, and is the present Thakore of Bichhraud.

Residence.—Bichhraud, Western Malwa Agency; Central India.

BICHHRAUD (II).

The Thakore of Bichhraud (II) receives like his brother-chief an annual fixed allowance of Rs. 430 from Sindhia through the Political Agent of Western Malwa. Besides that, he holds on a quit-rent tenure half the share in the village of Bichhraud, for which he has to pay to Sindhia a sum of Rs. 1,031 a year. It was with Thakore Nawal Singh that this Settlement was effected, though the usual British guarantee was not extended to the holding of Bichhraud. Dhokal Singh, the grand-son of Nawal Singh, died in 1873, when the present Thakore, Ratan Singh, a grand-son of Dhokal Singh, was placed on the *gadi* at the tender age of nine years.

Residence.—Bichhraud, Western Malwa Agency; Central India.

BIHAT.

Area.—13 sq miles. Population.—4,442.

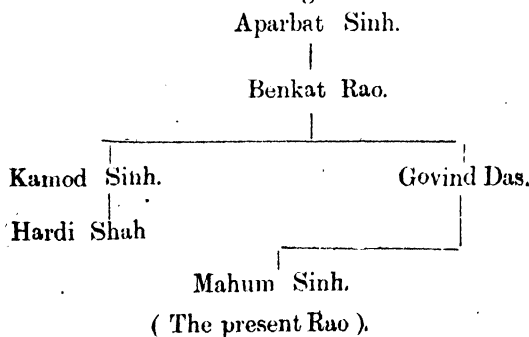
Revenue.—13000 rupees.

Diwan Aparbat Singh and Diwan Chhatri were in possession of the

estate at the time of the British Settlement, and it was to them that the formal *sanads*, confirming them in their possession, were granted in the year 1807. Their ancestors received this estate as a service grant from the descendants of Hardishah and it was continued in the same family during the government of Ali Bahadur.

Aparbat Sinh was, after his death, succeeded by his son, Benkat Rao, who, dying in 1828, was succeeded by Rao Kamod Sinh. Kamod Sinh died in 1846, leaving behind him an infant son, Hardisha, then only three years old. Hardisha was in possession of this estate till 1859, when after his death his uncle, Govind Das, brother of the late Rao Kamod Sinh, succeeded to his rights. A *sanad*, granting the right of adoption, was conferred on Govind Das, by which it was resolved to take *Nazarana* from the estate to the extent of a quarter of the yearly net revenue, if the succession was direct, but if the succession was by adoption then the *Nazarana* was increased to half the net annual income of the estate. Rao Govind Das died in 1872, and was, with the sanction of the India Government, succeeded by his son, Mahum Sinh, then a boy aged 14 years.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Bihat, Budel Khand ; Central India.

BIHORA.

Area.— $\frac{1}{2}$ sq. Miles. Population.—unknown.

Revenue.—1,466 rupees.

Sardar Khan, by caste a Mole-Salam Girasia, is the present Chief. He

pays Rs 51 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda, as a tribute, through the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha. No civil and criminal powers are granted to him.

Residence.—Bihora, Rewa Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

BIJA.

Area.—4 sq. miles. Population.—1,171.

Revenue.—1,000 rupees.

The Thakore of Bija is a Rajput whose ancestor, Garab Chand came from Ujjain, and conquered the territory in early times. The Gurkha well-nigh desolated the whole State ; but in 1815, the English who subdued those wild marauders, confirmed the Rana in the possession of his estate by a deed dated 4th September of the same year, imposing feudal service on the reigning chiefs. The number of begaris is fixed at five exchanged into a yearly payment of 180 rupees. The Thakore of this State is allowed an annual grant of 100 rupees as compensation for lands taken up from him, for the Kasauli Cantonment, including Nahri Spur, which was returned to the Chief in 1863 and regained from him in 1892. The present Thakore Udai Chand succeeded to the *gali* in 1841. This State is one of the Simla Hill States, and is in Political connection with the Punjab Government.

Residence.—Bija, Simla Hill States, Punjab ; Northern India.

BILAUD.

Area.—unknown. Population.—600.

Revenue.—6,500 rupees.

This small estate is situated in the Sangit district subject to the Nawab of Jaora. Nawab Gafur Khan granted it in *jagir* to one of his courtiers Saiyyad Hakim Jafar Ali. This man was a native of Babera, a village in the district of Fatehpur Haswa, in the North Western Provinces. Jafar Ali died in 1824, and was succeeded by his son Mahomed Saman Ali. He enjoyed the *jagir* till 1875, when he was succeeded by his son Mahomed

Zamin Ali. After his death, which took place on 29th August 1884, two of his widows doubted the legitimacy of his only son Gulam Abbas, but the Supreme Government decided the question in his favour. Gulam Abbas is nearly 14 years of age. It was at the time of the Settlement of Malwa in 1818 that Sir John Malcolm mediated on behalf of Jafar Ali and brought about an arrangement on 7th June 1818 by which British guarantee was extended to Bिलाud in recognition of the eminent services rendered by Hakim Jafar Ali to the British Government.

Genealogical tree.

Jafar Ali.

Mahomed Saman Ali.

Mahomed Zamin Ali.

Gulam Abbas.

(The present Nawab).

Residence.—Bिलाud, Western Malwa Agency; Central India.

BILAUDA.

The Thakore of Bिलाuda receives every year from the treasury of H. H. Maharaja Sindhia a fixed allowance amounting to Rs 2,824 through the Political Agent of Western Malwa. Similarly he directly receives from Holkar an yearly allowance of Rs. 832. Sir John Malcolm puts this sum at Rs. 1,000. Besides these cash allowances, the Thakore holds the village of Bिलाuda for which he annually pays to Holkar a quit-rent of Rs 471.

The Settlement of Bिलाuda was mediated with Thakore Samat Sinh. The present Thakore, Samrath Sinh inherited the estate in 1878. He is a Khichi Rajput of the Raghugarh branch of the Kalukhera sept.

Residence.—Bिलाuda, Western Malwa Agency ; Central India.

BILDI.

Area.—3 sq. miles. Population.—425.

Revenue.—6,000 rupees.

The Talukdar of this petty State is a Mussalman of the Sidi sept. He

pays no tribute to any higher authority. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. He is not entitled to civil and criminal powers. Bildi is 13 miles south-east from Gondal.

Residence.—Bildi, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

BOD.

Area.—2,064 sq. miles. Population.—130,103.

Revenue.—24,000 rupees.

This principality is bounded on the north by the Mahanadi river, separating it from Sonpur State in the Central Provinces, and from Athmallik State ; on the east by Daspalla ; on the south by the Madras States of Goomsur and Kimidi ; and on the west by Patna and Sonpur States.

The chiefs of Bod are *Kshatriyas* tracing their descent from one Ganda Mardan. Deo, who is said to have lived 70 generations back. The hereditary title of Raja has been enjoyed by successive rulers from the time of Mahomedan supremacy. The Marathas too recognised it, and was finally ratified by the English in 1874, during the regime of the late chief Pitamber Deo. The rulers of Bod have acquired historic renown for their loyalty and hospitality to all those who ever swayed the destinies of the country. It is said that when Raja Pratap Deo was reigning at Bod, a party of imperial troops was passing through his capital on its march to Puri. The officers in command were compelled to halt at Bod on account of the breaking out of bad fever in the ranks of the army. The Raja rendered them every assistance in his power, and gained their good opinion. On their return to the capital, the officers spoke approvingly of the hospitality and kindness of the Raja before the Emperor, who rewarded him with the title of 'Swasti Shri Deolakhya Dumbadhipati Jharkhund Mandleshwar.' The Rajas continued to hold this proud title till the time of Raja Bangamali Deo. During his reign certain Maratha officers repaired to Sonpur for the collection of their dues known as *Peshkash* and maltreated and harassed the innocent ryots. The enraged populace made a common cause and boldly determined upon killing the oppressors. The Marathas on hearing this, fled to Bod, and sought refuge with the Raja, but the Sonpuris followed them thither. The Raja rescued the Marathas by taking their

pursuers prisoners, and sending them to Nagpur. This act of the Raja gained for him the esteem of the Maratha sovereign, who conferred on him the title of 'Swasti Shri Prabala Pratapāditya Parutapa Dana-sampanna Jharkhand Badshah.' He was further exempted from the payment of all dues (*Peshkash*) either to the Marathas or Mughals. The high sounding title enjoyed by the chiefs was subsequently abbreviated to 'Jharkhand Paichha.' The eldest son of the reigning chief is called the Jub-Raja, while the younger sons, the Babus. The present Raja Jogindra Deo is 38 years old, and has been holding the reins of Government since 5th October 1879.

Residence.—Bod, Orissā tributary Mahals : Bengal.

BODANONESS.

Area.—88 sq. miles. Population.—157.

Revenue.—1,052 rupees.

Vajsur, by caste, Ahir of the Kamliā clan, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 103 to the Gackwad of Baroda, and Rs. 9 to Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. He has no civil and criminal powers. Bodanoneß is $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles south-east from Chok.

Residence.—Bodanoneß. Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

BOLUNDRA.

Area.—7 sq. miles. Population.—1,163.

Revenue.—1,550 rupees.

Salam Sinhji, by caste, a Rehver Rajput of the Indra clan, is the present Talukdar. His ancestors received this Taluka as *Jirai* in *Giras*, in 1724, from the Ranasan chief, to whose family he belongs. He pays Rs. 133-14-4. to the Idar State, as a tribute. The Talukdar has no *samād* of adoption, but the succession is governed by the rule of primogeniture. He is enlisted in the seventh class, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for one month and fine upto Rs. 50, while in civil matter he is competent to hear and dispose of suits to the value of Rs. 250.

Residence.—Bolundra, Mahi Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

BONAI.

Area.—1,349 sq. miles. Population.—24,030.

Revenue.—3,500 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by a part of Singbhoom district and by Gangpur State ; on the south and west by Bamra State of the Central Provinces ; and on the east by Keunjhar State of Orissa.

The chiefs of Bonai are descended from a *Kshatriya*, who is said to have been born under a *Kadam* tree. This circumstance gave his descendants the distinctive name of Kadam Banshis. According to a legend extant in the family, their progenitor was, immediately after birth, abandoned underneath a *Kadam* tree and was under imminent peril of falling into the hands of his enemy, when he was rescued by a peacock, who swallowed him, and safely deposited him in his craw, until the danger was over. With a view to cherish the memory of the kindly act done by the peacock, the family has adopted that bird as its crest. The present Chief, Raja Indra Deo Bahadur rendered valuable service to the British Government during the Keunjhar disturbances, which took place in 1867-68. Born in 1836, he ascended the *gadi* on the 12th September 1876. He has three sons, Nilambur Deo, Bishambar Deo, and Hari Krishna Deo. The eldest son of the Chief is called *Tikait*, the second *Potait*, the third *Lal*, and the younger are all known as *Babus*.

Residence.—Bonaigarh, Chhota Nagpur ; Bengal.

BORKHEDA.

Amar Singh, the present Thakore of Borkheda receives annually a *tankha* of Rs.484½ from the Senior Branch and of Rs. 283½ from the Junior Branch of the Dewas State. The Thakore has no *sanads* authorising these payments except a *parwana* given to Thakore Zalam Singh, grandfather of the present Chief, by Sir John Malcolm on 19th November 1818. This *parwana* shows that the Thakore then received certain money payments from the Dewas State. The above-mentioned amount of payment is not showed in the *parwana*, but from that it is made certain. To realise this amount of money the Thakore was directed not to exact money

from the State villages, but to apply to the local revenue officials.

Residence.—Borkheda, Bhopawar Agency ; Central India.

CHACHANA.

Area.—6 sq. miles. Population.—782.

Revenue.—2,293. rupees.

Kalubhai, a Jhal Rajput by caste, is the present Chief. He pays a tribute of Rs. 318 to the British Government. He has one independent tribute-payer. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by him. Chachana is three miles distant from Bhoika.

Residence.—Chachana, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

CHAMARDI.

Area.—7 sq. miles. Population.—2,100.

Revenue.—9,000 rupees.

Bhanabhai, Takhat Singh and Dajibhai, Gohel Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. They are *Bhayals* of H. H. the Maharaja of Bhavnagar. They pay a tribute of Rs. 765 to the Gaekwad of Baroda, and Rs. 93 to the Junagarh State as *Zortabli Hakka*. The Talukdars have three independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are granted to them. Chamardi is 9 miles north to the Songarh Railway Station and 10 miles east from the Dhola Railway Station.

Residence.—Chamardi, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

CHANDWAR.

The fortress of Chandwar, near Satan Bari, is situated in the district of **Bairsia** under Bhopal. It was held by a Rajput Chief named Balwant Singh of the Solanki tribe, who also received in that same district a *jagir* which he afterwards relinquished. He was granted five villages in *jagir* by the reigning sovereign of Bhopal. They were Chandwar, Ghawar, Magardhi Bada (large), Magardhi Chhota (small) and Manpur. The grantee of this estate was, after his death, succeeded by his son, Govardhan Singh. He had

three sons Gopal Sinh, Bhawani Sinh, and Suraj Mal, but as the eldest, Gopal Sinh rebelled in 1875, the succession to the *jagir* devolved upon the second son, Bhawani Sinh, the present Thakore.

Residence.—Chandwar, Bhopal Agency; Central India.

CHANG BHAKAR.

Area.—906 sq. miles. population.—18,526.

Revenue.—2,000 rupees.

This State is one of those known as the Chhota Nagpur Tributary Mahals in Bengal. Its rulers are Chauhan Rajputs descended from Jorawar Sinh a younger step-brother of Raja Garib Sinh of Korea and are known as Bhayas. The present Chief Bhaya Balbhadra Sinh is aged three score years and ten, who succeeded to the *gadi* on the 1st December 1865. He has a brother named Lal Ran Bahadur Sinh.

Residence.—Janakpur, Chhota Nagpur; Bengal Presidency.

CHARKHA.

Area. — 10 sq. miles. Population.—1,413.

Revenue.—11,000 rupees.

Cham, Unad, Bhan and Vikam Sinh, Kathis of the Vala clan, are the present Talukdars. They pay Rs. 503 to the Gaekwad of Baroda, as a tribute, and Rs. 38 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hukka*. The Talukdar have four independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal power is granted to them.

Residence.—Charkha, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

CHHALALA.

Area.—5 sq. miles. Population.—800.

Revenue.—2,300 rupees.

Bechar Sinh and Prabhat Sinh, Jhala Rajputs by caste, are the present

Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 971 is paid by them to the British Government and Rs. 78 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have two independent tribute-payers. They have no civil and criminal powers. Chhalala is 5 miles distant from the Chuda Railway Station.

Residence.—Chhalala, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

CHHALIAR.

Area.—9 sq. miles. Population.—3,300.

Revenue.—11,766 rupees.

The three sons of Gaj Sinhji, who was ruling at Godhra established three different chiefships at Godhra, Sojitra and Sili. For many centuries their descendants were in peaceful and undisturbed enjoyment of their respective chiefships; but they were among those petty Rajput states, which were ruined with the fall of the kingdom of Champaner in 1484, at the hands of Mahomed Begada.

A representative of the Sili line, Jagaji set himself up at Rajpura, and Agar Sinhji, fourth in his line, removed his court to Chhaliar. The present Thakore Chhatra Sinhji is the ninth in the direct line of Agar-Sinhji and succeeded his brother Drigpal Sinhji on the 21st of May 1888. The Thakore of Chhaliar enjoys third class magisterial power which entitle him to inflict punishment for two years' rigorous imprisonment and fine upto the amount of 250 rupees.

Residence.—Chhaliar, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

CHHOTA BARKHERA..

Area.—unknown. Population.—2,597.

Revenue.—5,000 rupees.

Sir John Malcolm effected the settlement of this estate in 1820 with

‡The representatives of the Godhra line are the Talukdars of Mehelol in the Panch-Mahals and of Sojitra and Sonipur in Thasra (Kaira Collectorate).

Tanaji. By the terms of that settlement, the Bhumia was to hold two villages free of rent, while he was to obtain possession of one village more after the lapse of seven years on an annual payment of 752 Hali rupees. Subsequently in 1822 a modified arrangement was arrived at between the Bhumia of Chhota Barkhera and the chief of Dhar, without the mediation of the British Government, by which the Bhumia gave over some of his possession to the Dhar chief, while he retained to himself only four villages for which he agreed to pay to the Dhar treasury Rs. 151 a year. Under the old settlement the Bhumia of Chhota Barkhera was, with his brother chief of Mota Barkhera, held jointly liable for crimes and robberies in fifteen villages. Though the original settlement has been modified by a subsequent arrangement, yet the British guarantee still continues to extend to that part of the original settlement, which is still in force. The Bhumia is under an obligation to submit to the chief of Dhar reports of crimes committed within his territories.

Mogat Sinh, the present Bhumia of Chhota Barkhera is the great-grandson of Pirthi Sinh, who was sixth in descent from Tanaji, with whom the original settlement was effected by Sir John Malcolm. Moti Sinh, the father of the present Thakore, died in 1889, and the succession of Mogat Sinh was duly recognised by the Supreme Government.

Residence.—Chhota Barkhera. Bhopawar Agency ; Central India.

CHIKTIABAR.

Manrup Sinh, the chief of Bharudpura, had two sons, Bhishan Sinh and Amar Sinh, of whom the elder succeeded to the estate of Bharudpura, while to the younger Amar Sinh, were granted Chiktiabar and other lands in its vicinity. This arrangement was brought about through the mediation of Captain Sindys in 1839. Umed Sinh is the present Bhumia of Chiktiabar, but as the estate is involved in heavy debts, it has been under the management of the British Political Agent, since the year 1876.

Residence.—Chiktiabar, Bhopawar Agency ; Central India.

CHIRODA.

Area.—72 sq. miles. Population.—241.

Revenue.—900 rupees.

Devi Sinh, a Sarvaiya Rajput by caste, is the present Chief. He pays Rs.

123 to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda, as a tribute, and Rs.12 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. He has no civil and criminal powers. Chiroda is 6 miles distant from Chok.

Residence.—Chiroda, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

CHITRAWAO.

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—325.

Revenue.—600 rupees.

Hadabhai, a Gohel Rajput, is the present Talukdar. He pays Rs.491 to the Maharaja of Baroda, as a tribute, and Rs. 38 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. He has one independent tribute-payer. He has no civil and criminal powers. Chitrawao is 3 miles distant from the Ujalwao Railway Station.

Residence.—Chitrawao, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

CHOBARI.

Area.—13 sq. miles. Population.—295.

Revenue.—5,209 rupees.

Odha and Desa, Kathis of the Khachar sect, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 144 to the British Government, and Rs.45 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have two independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are granted to them. Chobari is 12 miles south to Chotila.

Residence.—Chobari, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

CHOK.

Area.—4 sq. miles. Population.—1,264.

Revenue.—6,800 rupees.

Dadaji and Devaji, Sarvaiya Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars.

A tribute of Rs. 394 is paid by them to the Baroda State, and Rs. 23 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have two independent tribute-payers. They have no civil and criminal powers. Chok is 10 miles south-west from Palitana.

Residence.—Chok, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

CHORANGLA.

Area.—16 sq. miles. Population.—unknown.

Revenue.—3,752 rupees.

The Talukdars of this petty State belong to the Rathod sept. There are six share-holders, of whom Ram Sinhji is the chief one. They pay a tribute of Rs. 95 to the Baroda Government. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by any of them.

Residence.—Chorangla, Rewakantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

CHOTILA.

Area.—108 sq. miles. Population.—7,939.

Revenue.—22,000 rupees.

This Taluka was formerly possessed by Parmar Rajputs of Muli ; but it was taken away from them by the Kathis of the Khachar sept in 1566, and their descendants, Dada, Jasa, Bhoj, Champraj, Raniug, Bhan, Nag and Abhel hold this Taluka at the present day. They pay a tribute of Rs. 652 to the British Government, and Rs. 221½ to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have seven independent tribute payers. They are enlisted in the sixth class among the Kathiawad chiefs, so their criminal powers empower them to inflict rigorous imprisonment for 3 months, and fine upto Rs. 200, while in civil matters they are competent to hear and dispose of suits upto the value of Rs. 500. Chotila is 30 miles north-east from the Chuda Railway Station.

Residence.—Chotila, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

CHUDA.

Area.—78 sq. miles. Population.—13,495.

Revenue.—about 92,000 rupees.

The rulers of Chuda are Jhala Rajputs and are officially styled Thakores. In the annals of Wadhwan we have narrated that Bhav Sinh, the third son of Rajoji, went to Idar to reside at his maternal home, and afterwards at Sawar, where he married the daughter of its ruler; that his son Madhav Sinh, whose adventurous spirit excited the jealousy of his maternal aunt, went in search of fortune, first to Bundi and then to Kota, where he acquired celebrity, and an influence enough to procure him and his sons the *Fouzdari* of the latter State.

Madhav Sinh had three other sons, Arjun Sinh, Abhaya Sinh and Man Sinh, who returned to Wadhwan, and dethroning Bhagat Sinh, the son of Udai Sinh, the second son of Rajoji, assassinated him and his sons. Arjun Sinh placed himself on the throne, while Abhaya Sinh came to Chuda, and founded an independent chiefdom. Man Sinh received Jhammar and several villages from his brother Arjun Sinh.

Thus Abhaya Sinh became in 1706-7, the founder of the house, which still continues to occupy the *guli* of Chuda. He died in 1747, and was succeeded by Rai Sinh. The hostilities, which sprang up during his reign between him, and the Kathis of Paliyad, cost him his life in 1768. A similar fate attended his son Gaj Sinh, who died in 1780. His grand son Hathi Sinh successfully attacked the Kathis, and regained possession of Chuda. In the sanguinary feud which broke out in his time, between Prithiraj of Wadhwan and Hari Sinhji of Limbdi, Dhrangadhra, Syla and Chuda sided with Limbdi. It had therefore to share the cost of the struggle, which amounted to 10,000 rupees. He ruled at Chuda when the tributes were settled by Colonel Walker, who in his report remarks 'Chuda is reduced to misery and deserves to be placed under British protection.'

Upon the death of Hathi Sinh in 1820, prince Abhaya Sinh II came to the throne. After a short reign of ten years, he joined his father in the next world. Rai Sinh ruled till 1844, and Bachar Sinh, his successor is the present ruler of Chuda. Madhav Sinh, who is the heir-apparent prosecutes his studies at the Rajkot Rajkumar College.

Chuda is a third class State, so the Thakore is entitled to inflict rigorous

imprisonment for 7 years and fine upto Rs 10,000 and in civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose of suits upto the value of Rs. 20,000.

Genealogical tree.

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      Abhaya Sinh.
        |
      Rai Sinh.
        |
      Gaj Sinh.
        |
      Hathī Sinh.
        |
    Abhaya Sinh II.
        |
      Rai Sinh II.
        |
      Bechar Sinh.
        |
( The present Thakore ).
        |
      Madhav Sinh.
        |
( Heir apparent ).
  
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Residence.—Chuda, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

CHUDESAR.

Area.—2½ sq. miles. Population.—unknown.

Revenue,— 2,037 rupees.

Kesar Khan, Daji Bava, Chita Bava, Kesar Khan Rahim Khan, Kaim Khan, Alam Bava, and Chanda Bava, Molesalam Girasias by caste, are the present Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 311 is paid by them to the Baroda State. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them.

Residence.—Chudesar, Reva Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

DABHA.

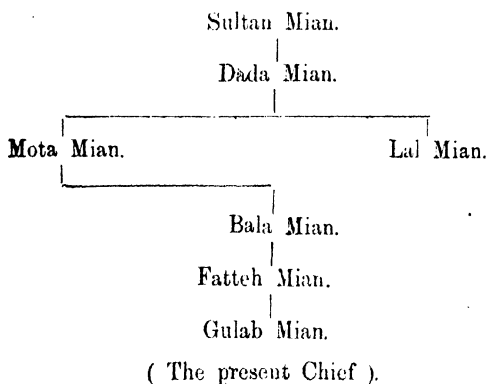
Area.—10 sq. miles. Population.—1,995.

Revenue.—6,500 rupees.

The ruler of this Taluka is a Molesalam Girasia and the opponent

of the chiefs of Mandwa. Sultan Mian, the eighth in descent from the founder of the *gadi* died in 1742. His younger son, Dada Mian had two sons, Lal Mian and Mota Mian. Lal Mian received the estate of Rumas and Mota Mian that of Dabha. The successors of Mota Mian were Bala Mian, Fatteh Mian and Gulab Mian, the present Chief. A tribute of Rs. 150 is paid by him to the Baroda Government and Rs. 53-6-0. to the Thakore of Amaliara. The Chief has not received the *sanad* of adoption, but the succession is governed by the rule of primogeniture. He is enlisted in the 5th class among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for six months, while in civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose of suits upto the value of Rs. 250.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Dabha, Mahi Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

DABRI.

Anup Singh was the Thakore of Dabri, with whom the original settlement was effected under the terms, of which it was agreed that he should receive through the Political Agent a fixed allowance of Rs 180 a year from H. H. Maharaja Sindhia to be charged upon the revenues of the Ujjein and Panbihar districts. The Thakore further claims certain cesses 'lag' and 'Bhet' from several villages* in the above-mentioned districts. The Thakore alleges that he originally held 500 *bighas* of land in Dabri.

*These villages are Sawarkhori and Kadwari in the Panbihar district and Kalidi, Ukonta Karandi, and Utara in the Ujjein district.

Anup Sinh was succeeded by Lal Sinh who in his turn was succeeded by his nephew Bhairav Sinh. Bhairav Sinh died in the month of February 1882, and was succeeded by his son, Dev Sinh. He managed the estate only for a year and dying in 1883 was succeeded by his infant son Parbat-Sinh, then only four years old, who is the present Thakore of Dabri.

Residence.—Dabri, Western Malwa Agency ; Central India.

DADHALYA.

Area.—25 sq. miles. Population.—4,562.

Revenue.—4,110 rupees.

In the opening years of the 17th century, a Sessodiya cavalier, Vahaji by name, left Udaipur, and marched in the direction of Gujarat in search of fortune with a few followers. He took service under the Rao Kalyan Mal of Idar. The Rao granted him a *sanad* for the forty-two villages of the Bayad *Pargana*. Vahaji importuned the Rao for a further grant, in response to which, he bestowed on him Dadhalya and six other *Bhilodi* villages. Some times after, Maharaja Gaj Sinh of Jodhpur put up the Rao to demand service from Vahaji, which he refused to render. Thereupon the Bayad estate was sequestered by the Rao, leaving the *Inam* villages undisturbed. The haughty blood of a Sessodiya runs into the veins of the present Talukdar Jasvant Sinhji, who is ranked as a fifth Class chief under Mahi Kantha Agency, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for six months, while in civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose of suits up to the value of Rs. 250.

Residence.—Dadhalya, Mahi Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency

DAHIDA.

Area.—2 sq. miles Population.—450.

Revenue.—10,000 rupees.

Mamaiya, Kapur, Zala, Rokhad, Nag and Jethsur, Vala Kathis, are the present Talukdars. They pay no tribute to any higher authority. The Talukdars have six independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them. Dahida is eight miles south-west from Lakhapadar.

Residence.—Dahida, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

DANTA.

Area.—450 sq. miles. Population.—21,736.

Revenue.—50,001 rupees.

Rav Palji Parmar, the fortieth in descent from the famous Vikram, the lord of Ujjein, once went on a pilgrimage to Dwarka. On his way back he arrived at a spot dedicated to the goddess Ambika near Nagar Thatha, a village situated on the outlines of Cutch and Sindh. He there took a vow neither to eat a particle of food nor to drink a drop of water without having first worshipped the goddess. The Devi (goddess) was much pleased with his devotion and made herself visible to him; she further promised to grant whatever boon he might ask. Rav Palji asked for the throne of Sindh, which he obtained in 809. The new monarch established his seat of government at Nagar Thatha and began to rule over the province. Damoji was fourteenth in descent from Rav Palji, in whose reign the Mahomedans oft invaded the capital. The struggle lasted for nine years, at the end of which Nagar Thatha fell into the hands of the invaders. Damoji was slain, but the contest was continued under the command of Prince Jasraj, who succeeded in re-conquering the throne of Nagar Thatha. The Mahomedans, however, returned again and using human bones in the construction of wells, polluted the land of Sindh. The goddess Ambika, Prince Jasraj, his family and friends left Nagar Thatha for ever, and settled at Arasur. Ambaji (the name of the goddess) then gave him the tiger upon which she rode, and said to him 'seat yourself upon this tiger and make a circuit, whatever territory you encircle shall be yours; Jasraj did so and made a circuit of 760 villages.* Within its range were included Kheralu on the south; Kotda on the north-east; Derol on the east; on the north Bharmal's well situated within the territory of Sirohi; Ghadwada, on the south-east; and on the north-west he went as far as Hathidra. He made Gabar Gadha, his principal seat of government. He found incalculable treasure buried underneath the Gabar Gadh hill, by means of which he raised a large army and proceeded towards Nagar Thatha, to take revenge upon the infidel Mussulmans. He vanquished and killed his foes and regained the territory of Nagar Thatha.† He spent the rest of his life in that country. There is a tradition regarding the birth of Jasraj

* Rasmala Vol I. P. 427.

† Nothing further is known of the Rajput government re-established at Nagar Thatha. It is, however, somewhere stated that a terrible famine visited the land of Sindh in 1245, and the Parmars leaving the country fled to Muli and other places.

which says that Damoji had no son, and he consequently made vows to his tutelary goddess for the purpose of obtaining one. The goddess drew blood from her own finger and mixing it with the dirt secreted from skin, she created a human being, and giving him to Damoji, ordered him to be named Jasraj. She further told that the prince was created for the purpose of protecting her own temple.

When Jasraj went to Nagar Thatha, he entrusted the newly acquired kingdom of Gabar Gadh to his son, Kedar, Sinhji. He defeated and slew Tarsangiyo, a Bhil Chieftain reigning at Tarsangma, in the year 1069, and removed his seat of Government from Gabar to Tarsangma.

Kedar Sinhji was, after his death, succeeded by Jaspal, in whose line of descent there flourished one Jagatpal several degrees removed from him. In his reign Alla-ud-din Khilji, the Emperor of Delhi, conquered from him the capital town of Tarsangma, but on the next day when the hostilities were renewed, Alla-ud-din was defeated, and Tarsangma taken back (between 1295 and 1316). Kanad Dev was the sixth in descent from Jagatpal, and was treacherously murdered by his brother Ambaji of Kota.

Kanad Dev left behind him two sons, Meghji and Maghji, of whom Meghji ascended the *gadi*. Bhan the Rao of Idar marched against Meghji and obtained possession of Tarsangma (1445). Meghji was then very young, and had for his guard a stalwart Khawas named Maru Rawat. The Rao took him prisoner and carrying him to Idar, confined him in a dungeon opposite to his palace. Rao Bhan used to amuse himself sitting at his window every day, by teasing the Rawat and taunting him in very harsh terms. At last the Rawat, when he could no longer brook such dastardly behaviour on the part of the Rao, once roared out 'where lies your valour in thus insulting a man, who is fettered with chains, and locked up in a dungeon. A tiger even when he is caged, can do nothing; but if you once let me out, I would cause this palace of yours to be levelled to the ground and its bricks thrown in the river Harnav at Rahida.' The Rao was much enraged when he heard these words, and he at once ordered the sentinel to turn that dog out. On being released, Maru Rawat went to the young chief Meghji, who was all the while staying at his maternal home at Kuva (the principal seat of Jhala Kingdom). He took the two princes Meghji and Maghji to Ahmedabad furnishing themselves with a large sum of

money. Maru first saw the Minister of Sultan Mahomed II. and made all arrangements with him. He then made the two princes approach the presence of the Emperor with lighted *braziers* on their heads. The Padshah seeing them in such a plight said 'Take down these *braziers*, lest the princes be scorched'. The Kunwars cried out 'sire the Rao of Idar has deprived us of our hereditary estate; we have been left in possession of no ground to stand upon; even the ground that we are now treading, belongs to the Emperor'. The Moslem ruler consoled them and having caused the *braziers* to be taken down, made himself acquainted with their full account. The Emperor sent a large army against Idar on condition of receiving from these princes a royalty of one *lakh* of rupees. This army conquered Idar, and razed the Rao's palace to the ground. Maru Rawat then caused the bricks and stones of the palace to be plunged in the Harnav river by paying gold *Mohors* instead of silver rupees to those of the soldiers, who carried them to the river side. The Rawat, however, had not the means to pay the stipulated sum of money to the Emperor, and he made his escape to the neighbouring hills. Afterwards the district of Kheralu was written over to the Emperor in consideration of that sum, and Meghji was reinstated on the *gadi* of Tarsangma which was under him restored to its old prosperity.

Ashkaranji was reigning at Tarsangma when Emperor Akbar was wielding the Imperial sceptre at Delhi. One of the princes of Akbar having incurred the displeasure of the Emperor, fled from the Metropolis. He first sought refuge with the powerful chiefs of Udepur, Jaipur and other principal states in the Rajasthana, but none of them entertained the fugitive prince at his court through the fear of the grand Monarch. At last he reached Tarsangma where Ashkaranji gave him a hearty welcome. When the prince was reconciled to his father, he returned to Delhi, where the Emperor asked him the name of the person who had so long given him shelter. The prince gave the name of Ashkaranji, the chief of Tarsangma. Akbar was highly delighted at the chief's earnest devotion, and presenting him with a rich dress of honour conferred on him the title of 'Rana' which is enjoyed by his descendants to the present day.

Rana Ashkaranji had at the time of his death, three sons, Vagha, Jayamal and Pratap Sinhji. Of these the eldest Vagha succeeded to the *gadi*. The Rana, under the disguise of a Brahman, caught a glimpse of the fair

Queen of Kalyan Mal, Rao of Idar. The Rao, when he learnt this, was much enraged, and marching against Rana Vagha, took him prisoner. He also sent his men in pursuit of the Rana's brother, Jayamalji. He escaped to Kheralu but shortly after returned to Tarsangma. The Rao then attacked Tarsangma, but had to return vanquished. Rana Vagha committed suicide in the prison at Idar. He was succeeded by Jayamal, during whose reign, the Rao once more marched upon Tarsangma. On this occasion the Rao succeeded in obtaining possession of Tarsangma, where he placed a garrison of his own. When the capital town of Tarsangma was thus wrested from their hands, Rana Jayamal and his son, Jethmal, went to Danta, and taking a solemn pledge in the name of the Mata, they both took themselves to outlawry against Kalyan Mal. The followers of the Rana, both horse and foot had undergone a considerable diminution owing to perpetual warfare, but Rana Jayamal was killed during one of their excursions. Jethmalji in despair repaired to the temple of the Mata, fasted for several days, and was on the point of performing 'Kamal Puja' (dedicating his head to the deity), when the goddess appearing to him in his dream, asked him to be up and doing, and make a free use of his sword. Jethmalji set out with some of his horsemen and destroyed several of the outposts established by the Rao of Idar. He also succeeded in reconquering his lost domains, and laying waste his old capital of Tarsangma, he removed the seat of Government to Danta* 1544.

Rana Jethmalji died soon after his arrival at Danta. He had two sons, Jai Sinh and Punjoji, of whom the younger, Punjoji, occupied the *gadi* in supercession of his elder brother, Jai Sinh. Punjoji had at the time of his death three sons, Man Sinh, Amar Sinh and Ghengoji, of whom the eldest, Man Sinh, succeeded to the throne. Man Sinhji died in 1682, leaving behind him two sons, Gaj Sinhji and Jaswaji, of whom the former ascended the *gadi*. Jaswoji received in appanage Sudasana and other villages.

Rana Gaj Sinhji reigned for five years, and dying in 1687, was succeeded by his elder son, Prithi Sinh, while his younger son, Viram Devji, was granted the *jagir* of Nagel. Rana Prethi Sinhji reigned for 56 years and died in 1743. As he died without issue, the *gadi* was next occupied by Karanji, the son of his brother, Viram Devji.

* This town is so named after Dantoria Pit whose shrine lies two miles to the west on the road to Navawasa.

Rana Karanji had a quarrel with one of his Sardars, Meghraj, who, deposing him, seated Amar Sinhji of Sudasana on the throne of Danta. Rana Karanji then entreated his younger brother, Umed Sinhji, to bestow the hand of his daughter on Bahadur Khanji, the Diwan of Palanpur, and thus obtaining his help, drive away the usurper and his comrades from Danta. Umed Sinhji complying with his brother's request, they both opened negotiations with the Diwan of Palanpur. The Moslem, exceedingly flattered at the prospect of marrying a Rajput bride, readily consented to support the cause of Karanji. The Diwan marched at the head of his army against Amar Sinhji, and peremptorily ordered him to leave the precincts of Danta. Amar Sinhji overcome with fear at the approach of such a large army returned an humble reply that he was ready to leave Danta but he must have some other estate for the maintenance of his family. Amar Sinhji, satisfied with the grant of a few villages together with a fourth share from the proceeds of the Shrine of Ambaji Mata, retired to Sudasana; and Karanji was installed on the *gadi*. The Rana gave the hand of his niece in marriage to the Diwan.

Rana Karanji left behind him two sons, Ratan Sinhji and Abhaya Sinhji, of whom the elder Ratan Sinhji succeeded to the throne. He reigned for five years and dying without issue, he was succeeded by his younger brother, Abhaya Sinhji. The Rana was constantly harassed by his Sardars and Puttawats, against whom he summoned from Baroda a Maratha general named Arjun Rao Chopdo, promising to pay him a fourth share from the revenues of Danta. In the beginning he conducted the administration only but by degrees, he began to arrogate to himself all the regal power. The Rana and his son, Man Sinhji, were so much disgusted with the premier's imperious conduct that they with the help of the *Bhayads*, surrounded the Marathas' simple train in a narrow lonely spot and cut off all supplies of food or water. When they could not find their way out of the difficulty, they solemnly promised to abandon Danta, and return to their homes. The siege was raised, and the Marathas quietly went away to their respective places.

Rana Abhaya Sinhji died in 1795, leaving behind him three sons, Man Siph, Jagat Sinh and Nahar Sinh. The eldest of these, Man Sinh, ascended the *gadi*, and shortly after invaded Poseena. He then accompanied Gambhir Sinhji, the Maharaja of Idar on a *Mulukgiri* expedition.

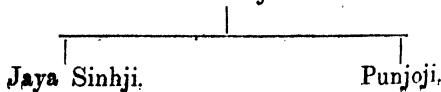
Rana Man Sinhji ruled for five years and died in 1800, without any issue. The *gadi* was therefore next occupied by his brother, Jagat Sinhji. He did not pull on well with his sardars, nor was he on good terms with his brother, Nar Sinhji. The other Sardars afterwards intervened, and effected a reconciliation between the two brothers by making them quaff the 'Kasumba' (opium water) together. This amicable relation proved to be of a short duration only; for, Jagat Sinhji was soon set up by his intriguing counsellors against his brother, Nar Sinhji, and the Rana in anger quitting the capital successively resided at Sudasana and Pethapur. At last Nar Sinhji appeased his wrath and brought him back to Danta.

Rana Jagat Sinhji died of fever in the year, 1823 and as he had no offspring, the Danta *gadi* was occupied by his younger brother, Nar Sinhji. When Juwan Sinhji, the Maharana of Udepur went on a pilgrimage to Devi Ambika in 1836, the Rana of Danta also repaired to the spot where the Goddess is worshipped, to accord the royal guest a fitting welcome. Similarly when His Excellency the Governor of Bombay visited Sadra, the Rana went thither to pay respects to that illustrious personage. The Governor presented the Rana with a rich dress of honour.

Rana Nar Sinhji died in 1847, after reigning for 23 years. He was succeeded by prince Jalam Sinhji. He, after a rule extending over 13 years, died in 1860, and was succeeded by Hari Sinhji. In 1876, the Rana died having occupied the *gadi* for 16 years, and was succeeded by Kunvar Jasvant Sinhji, the present Rana. He is a Parmar Rajput of the Barad sept, a direct descendant of the illustrious Vikram, the brave and philanthropic king of Ujjeni. Jasvant Sinhji has three sons, Hamir Sinhji, Dalpat Sinhji and Fatteh Sinhji, of whom the eldest Hamir Sinhji has studied in the Mayo College, at Ajmere. The Rana of Danta is enlisted in the 2nd class among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha, so he enjoys full criminal powers over his subjects and in civil matters he is empowered to hear and dispose of suits upto the value of Rs. 20,000. Danta is 20 miles distant from the Palanpur Railway Station.

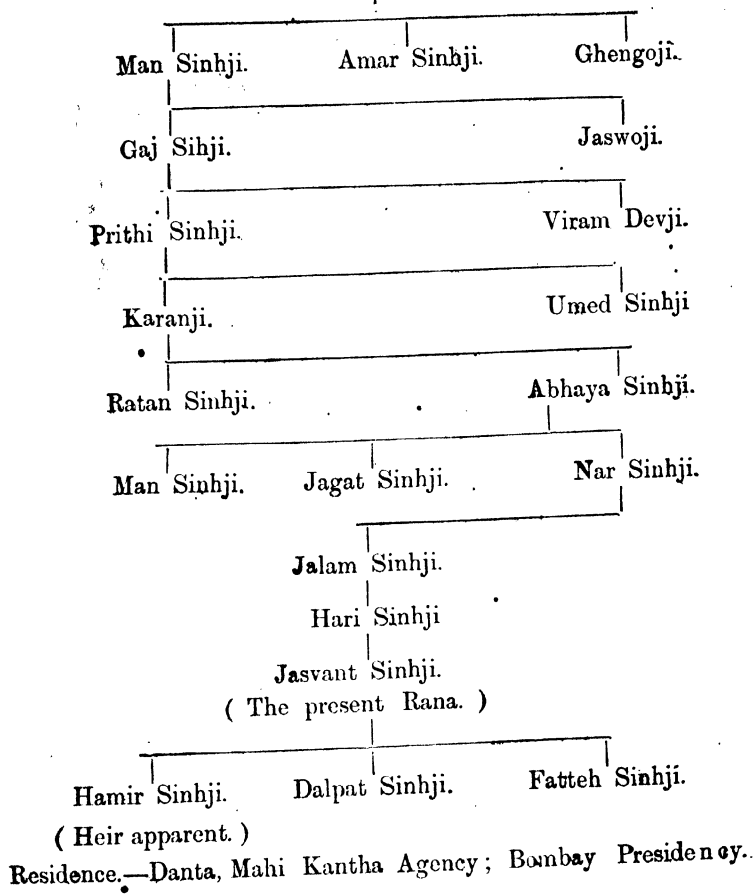
Genealogical tree.

Jetmulji.



THE IHND RAJASTHAN.

Punjoji.



DARKUTI.

Area.—5 sq. miles. Population.—595.

Revenue.—600 rupees.

It is not known when the founder of the Rajput family came over from Marwad, but thirty three generations have passed between the founder and the present Rana. In 1815, the British Government cleared the *Raj* of the Gurkhas and others, who had overrun it. The state was in the possession of a Rana who was recognised as such. The present Rana, Saran Sinh, was

born in 1833 and succeeded to the *gadi* on the 15th October, 1883, after the death of his father, Ram Sinh. This State is one of the Punjab Simla Hill States.

Residence.—Darkuti, Simla Hill States ; Punjab.

DAROD.

Area.—4 sq. miles. Population.—425.

Revenue.—1,180 rupees.

Bhim Sinh and Bechar Sinh, Jhala Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. They pay Rs. 366 to the British Government as a tribute and Rs. 50 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have two independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are granted to them. Darod is 3 miles South-east from Bhoika.

Residence.—Darod, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

DARYA KHERI.

Area.—6 sq. miles. Population.—473.

Revenue.—7,500 rupees.

It was at the time of the general Settlement of Malwa by Sir John Malcolm in 1818, that an arrangement was made with the Thakore of Darya Kheri by which he was to receive from the States of Gwalior and Bhopal a fixed annual allowance amounting to Rs. 4,280.* The relations of the Thakore with the reigning Chiefs of Gwalior and Bhopal and with the British Government are the same as those of the other feudatory chiefs of Malwa with whom a similar settlement was effected. The Thakore also holds a *sanad* for two villages in Shujawalpur within the territories of H. H. the Sindhia for which he has to pay a *salami* (Quit-rent) originally amounting to Rs. 925. The British Government has extended their guarantee to these holdings. On the death of Shivdhan Sinh, in 1870 the Maharaja Sindhia attempted to resume these villages but on the inter-

* Out of these Rs. 2900+180 were to be paid by Sindhia, while Rs. 1200 were to be recovered from Bhopal.

ference of the British Government, the grant was continued, but the amount of the *salami* was raised to Rs. 1,075 a year. Shirdhan Singh was succeeded by Ranjit Singh, who expired on 9th April 1888. On that occasion some correspondence was carried on between the Gwalior Darbar and the India Government for the resumption of the grant, which, too, ended in the increase of the quit-rent to Rs. 1,275 a year. Ranjit Singh was succeeded by Unkar Singh, who is the present Thakore of Darya Kheri.

Residence.—Darya Kheri, Bhopal Agency ; Central India.

DASADA.

Area.—123 sq. miles. Population.—17,000

Revenue.—60,000 rupees.

Joravar Khan, Umar Khan, Jafar Khan, Jesar Khan, Sadal Khan, and Sadat Khan, Mussalmans by caste, known by the appellation of "Muleks," are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 12,968 to the British Government, and Rs. 23-4-0. as Ahmedabad *Sukhdi Hakka*. The Talukdars have six independent tribute-payers. Dasada is 11 miles distant from the Patdi Railway Station.

Residence.—Dasada, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

DASPALLA.

Area.— 568 sq. miles. Population.—45,597.

Revenue.—17,993 rupees.

This state is bounded on the north by Angul, Narsingpur and the Mahanadi river; on the south by Madras state of Gumsur; on the east by Khandpura and Nayagarh and on the west by Bod. The family is a younger branch of the Bod ruling family, being descended from Narayan Bhanj, a *Kshatriya* of the Solar race. The head of the family was entitled Raja, and the title was formally conformed by the British Government, 21st May 1874. The present ruling chief is Chaitan Deo Bhanj who succeeded to the *gadi* in 1873. This State is one of the Orissa Tributary Mahals.

Residence.—Daspalla, Orissa Tributary Mahals; Bengal.

DATANA.

The Thakore of Datana is a Rajput of the Jadav stock and is related to the House of Karauli. At the time of the Settlement of Malwa, Sardar Singh was in charge of the estate with whom an agreement was effected, by which he was to receive from Maharaja Sindhia, through the Political Agent, a fixed allowance of Rs. 186 a year. In addition to that he was granted by Sindhia a *jagir* consisting of certain lands in Datana and 50 *bighas* of land in Hanskheri, Kharchar and Hilakheri.

Sardar Singh was after his death succeeded by Pirthi Singh, who was succeeded by his son Ratan Singh. As he had no male issue, he adopted as his son, Bhavani Singh, the present Thakore of Datana. Ratan Singh died in 1878 and was succeeded by Bhawani Singh then only twelve years old.

Residence.—Datana, Western Malwa Agency ; Central India.

DATHA.

Area.—50 sq. miles. Population.—9,355.

Revenue.—23,000 rupees.

Bavaji and Jasbhai, Sarvaiya Rajputs of the Chudasama branch, are the present Talukdars. Their ancestor, Bhim, was the second son of Rah Naundhan, the Chudasama king of Junagarh. This Rah died in 1098, and was succeeded by his eldest son Khengar II; while Bhim received in *Giras* a district of 84 villages together with the village of Sarva, from which the descendants of Bhim were known as Sarvaiya Rajputs. Afterwards they conquered the districts of Amreli and Hathasani, the former of which they made their seat of government. In 1476, when Mahmud Begada conquered Junagarh, Amreli fell into his hands; thereupon the Sarvaiya Sardars went into out-lawry against the Padshah. After twelve years they proceeded to Hathasani, and there they divided the estate into two parts, in which Jasoji received the village of Hathasani and Vijoji that of Jesur. Datha was then under the rule of the Mahomedan Emperor, but, after the death of Aurangzeb in 1707, the Thandar began to rule independently and harassed the subjects and the neighbouring Sardars. Thereupon the shepherds and Ahirs flocked together and drove him from Datha. These people in their turn proved persecutive, and so the subjects asked the Sarvaiya

Chief for help ; whereupon Versoji, Kanoji and Meghrajji marched towards Datha and conquered it in 1754 ; thence it is held by their descendants to the present day. Subsequently some of their villages were conquered by the rulers of Bhavnagar and Junagarh, while some were divided between the other Sarvaiya Rajputs, so the Talukdars of Datha hold to the present day 24 villages. The Talukdars of Datha pay a tribute of Rs. 5,099 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and Rs. 299 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. They have two independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them. Datha, on the banks of the Bagad river, is 4 miles from the sea and 15 miles south-west from Talaja.

Residence.—Datha, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

DATWAD.

Area.—40 sq. miles. Population.—19,525.

Revenue.—89,835 rupees.

Narayan Rao Ghorpade, Amir-ul-Umrah and Udaji Rao Chavan, Himmut Bahadur, Marathas by caste, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs.4,000 to the British Government. This state is one of the Kolhapur Agency.

Residence.—Datwad, Kolhapur Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

DEDAN.

Area.—30 sq. miles. Population.—5,400.

Revenue.—30,000 rupees.

The Talukdars of this estate are Babarias of the Kotila branch, between whom and the Kathis intermarriages exist to the present day. The Kotilas are the descendants of one Trikam Jani, an old Bhabman land-holder of Sihore. On one occasion Trikam Jani was preparing his repast outside the city walls of Talaja, when a daughter of an Ahir, Deva Darila, with her sister-in-law (brother's wife) came to the well to fetch water. Finding him very uncouth, she spoke to her companion:-- 'The fellow yonder is ludicrously innocent of the culinary art.' The sister-in-law jestingly answered, 'You are

still a virgin, take pity on the Brahmin, and cook for him ! She thereupon said that she was bound to follow her advice as she was her senior in age. She afterwards approached the Brahmin, and declared that they would thenceforth live as husband and wife. Synchronous with this incident occurred the noteworthy event of great historic interest mentioned in our account of Vala. While Abhal II was giving away in marriage the unmarried virgins, who had transgressed their marriageable age owing to the differences that arose between the Kayastha laity and the priest-hood, this pair also repaired to that spot and the king got their marriage ceremonies performed along with those of the rest, but to mark the novelty of the wedding of a Brahmin with an Ahir's daughter, Abhal made a *tila* on the Jani's neck. His descendants were therefore styled Kotila. There is also another version which accounts for the name of Kotilas acquired by the Brahmin's descendants. Trikam had three sons, one of whom was named Kotilo, which served as a patronymic to his descendants. In this Taluka the principal sharers at present are, Kotila Waja. Ram Sinh, Jaitmal and Champraj. A tribute of Rs. 2,956 is paid by them to the Baroda Government. The Talukdars have two independent tribute-payers. Dedan is 17 miles north to Jafraabad.

Residence.—Dedan, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

DEDARDA.

Area.—2 sq. miles. Population.—800.

Revenue.—4,100 rupees.

Jayashangji and Bhojrajji, Sarvaiya Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 103 to the Baroda Government. The Talukdars have two independent tribute-payers. They have no civil and criminal powers. Dedarda is 7 miles south-west from Palitana.

Residence.—Dedarda, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

DEDHAROTA.

Area.—11 sq.miles. Population.—1,200.

Revenue.—3,350 rupees.

Punaji, a Makvana Rajput, is the present Talukdar. His ancestor,

Vijaya Pal, was descended from the ruling family of Patdi. Patthi, a descendant of this Vijaya Pal, once came at the village of Dedharota, where he married a daughter of a Koli of the Khant tribe, and from him he received the village of Dedharota. From this Chief also originated several other branches such as Ilol and others.

The present Thakore is enlisted in the sixth class among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha, so he is empowered to inflict rigorous imprisonment for three months and fine upto the value of Rs. 100, while in civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose of suits upto the value of Rs. 500. He pays a tribute of Rs. 699 to the Gaekwad of Baroda, and of Rs. 74-8-0 to the Idar Darbar.

Residence.—Dedharota, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

DELOLI.

Area—Unknown. Population—1,063.

Revenue.—5,000 rupees.

Umed Sinh, a Makwana Koli, is the present Talukdar. It is said that his ancestors are descended from the Katōsan ruling Family. The present Chief pays Rs. 256 to the Baroda State as a tribute. He is enlisted in the seventh class, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for one month and fine up to Rs. 50, while in civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose of suits up to the value of Rs. 250.

Residence.—Deloli, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

DEODAR.

Area.—440 sq. miles. Population.—24,061

Revenue.—25,000 rupees.

This petty State is bounded on the north by Tharad; on the east by Kankrej; on the south by Bhabhar and Terwada, and on the west by Suigam and Tharad.

This Taluka is held by the Rajput Sardar of the Bhilodia branch of the Vaghela tribe. In 1297 it was wrested from the hands of the ancestors of the present Chief and was annexed to the Palanpur State. It was, after some years, regained by the Vaghelas. Formerly there were 84 villages under this Taluka, but a greater portion of it was rendered desolate owing to the visitation of a dire famine in 1786 (known in Gujarat by the name of *Betalo-42-famine*). The principal Talukdar and his subordinates went to different parts of the country to eke out some means of livelihood. The villages under this Taluka were thus appropriated by the neighbouring chiefs at their free will and pleasure. After the lapse of several years, one Punjaji, a cadet of the Vaghela house, accepted employment under the Nawab of Radhanpur. The Nawab was pleased with his good service, and assisted him in obtaining sole management of Deodar in the absence of the principal Sardar. He spent a great sum of money in raising it to a prosperous condition. In 1828 the descendant of the principal holder lodged a complaint before Colonel Miles, Political Superintendent of Palanpur, saying that he was the rightful claimant to the Taluka of Deodar. He prayed that the possession of the Taluka be restored to him as the then occupant was simply one of his *Bhayads*. Though the plea was just and equitable, yet as it was in the possession of the *Bhayads* long before it came to be in any way connected with the British Crown, the dispute was amicably settled. The possession of the *Bhayad* was affirmed, though the rightful claimant was granted some *jagir* by way of maintenance.

Thakore Punjaji had two sons Akhe Sinhji and Chandaji. They divided the Taluka between themselves. There are at present four shareholders, Anand Sinhji, Dewaji, Gambhir Sinhji and Sardar Sinhji. They are empowered to inflict, in criminal cases, imprisonment extending to one month, and fine upto Rs. 50, while in civil matters they hear and decide suits to the value of Rs. 250. In Deodar there are, besides, suitable buildings for the residence of these share-holders, and a Gujarati School. There is a Thandar employed there for general supervision on behalf of the Political Superintendent.

Residence.— Deodar, Palanpur Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

THE HIND RAJASTHAN.

DERDI

(JAN BAIS.)

Area.—2 sq. miles. Population.—732.

Revenue.—2,500 rupees.

Mulu, Dasa and Nan, Charans by caste, are the present Talukdars. This Taluka was given in gift to a Charan by the Rao of Bhadli in old days, and the descendants of that Charan hold the estate upto the present day. They were freed from the tribute by Fattah Singh Rao Gaekwad of Baroda in 1803. The Talukdars have three independent tribute-payers. They have no civil and criminal powers. Dendi is 6 miles west to the Dhasa Railway Station.

Residence.—Dendi, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

DEROL

Area.—10½ sq. miles. Population.—1,375.

Revenue.—2,800 rupees.

Ram Singh, a Makwana Rajput by caste, is the present Talukdar. He is descended from the Makwana Bhatthi of Dedharota. * The present Thakore pays a tribute of Rs. 513-80 to the Gaekwad of Baroda and of Rs. 46-9-0 to the Idar State as *Khichadi Hakka*. He is enlisted in the sixth class, so he is empowered to inflict rigorous imprisonment for 3 months and fine upto the value of Rs. 100, while in civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose of suits upto the value of Rs. 500.

Residence.—Deroi; Mahi Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

DEVALIA.

(REWA KANTHA.)

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—1,000 rupees.

Chand Mian, a Molesalam Girasia, is the present Talukdar. His ancestors are descended from the Agar ruling family, and are known by the name of Chauhan Molesalam Girasia. The Talukdar pays no tribute to any higher

* See Dedharota.

authority. He has no civil and criminal powers.

Residence.—Devalia, Rewa Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

DEVALIA.

(KATHIAWAD.)

Area.—12 sq. miles. Population.—1,000.

Revenue.—5,232 rupees.

Kesari Sinh and Karanji, Jhala Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. They are the *Bhayads* of the ruling family of Limbdi. A tribute of Rs. 467 is paid by them to the British Government and Rs. 56 to the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have two independent tribute-payers. They have no civil and criminal powers. Devalia is 7 miles north-west from the Lakhtar Railway Station.

Residence.—Devalia, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

DHABLA DHIR.

Area.—10 sq. miles. Population.—2,200.

Revenue.—10,000 rupees.

The estates of Dhabla Dhir and Kakar Kheri were held jointly by Gundar Sinh, after whose demise they were separated and partitioned in 1818, among his sons, Subhag Sinh and Lal Sinh. The former thus became the founder of the Dhabla Dhir Thakorate. It was with this Subhag Sinh that the first Settlement was effected. Under the forms of that Agreement the holder of the Dhabla Dhir *jagir* receives annually through the Political Agent of Bhopal certain fixed allowances from different States. *

* From Holkar Rs. 600.

„ Sindhia „ 2,800.

„ „ „ 150.

„ Dewas „ 100.

„ Bhopal „ 600.

Total.....4,250.

These cash allowances are not subject to any deductions at the will of the donors. In addition to these fixed allowances (tankhas) the *Jagirdar* holds three villages in the district of Shujawalpur under Gwalior on a nominal rent of Rs. 1,401 a year. For this grant he has obtained the guarantee of the British Government. In the internal management of the estate the Thakore is only subject to the control of the Political Agent of Bhopal, and no interference on the part of any of the above-mentioned States is tolerated.

Subhag Singh died in 1855, and was succeeded by his nephew and adopted son Raghunath Singh; Chand Singh, the brother of Raghunath Singh, inherited the Kakarkheri estate. Raghunath Singh was tried and convicted of a criminal offence in 1871, for which he was sentenced to transportation for life. As his wives were suspected of being privy to the offence the usual sanction for adoption was refused to them, and the line of Raghunath Singh thus became extinct. The estate of Dhabla Dhir was, however, not confiscated, but allowed to descend to the *Jagirdar* of Kakarkheri. Thus the two estates were once more united in the person of Chand Singh. Some time after, H. H. Maharaja Holkar questioned the title of Chand Singh to the cash allowance of Rs. 600 a year paid from his treasury on the ground that the said allowance was paid in lieu of service to be performed by the Thakore of Dhabla Dhir, but this objection was overruled by the Government of India, which decided that in the absence of any express stipulation to that effect in the original *Sanad* granted to Subhag Singh, the general policy of the British Government to maintain intact the guaranteed holdings would not be departed from. The Maharaja was thus prevented from carrying out a policy, which aimed at the forfeiture of the yearly allowance of Rs. 600 paid to the Thakore of Dhabla Dhir.

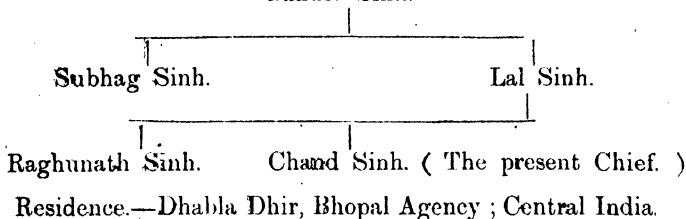
In 1831 another Settlement was effected with Sindhia through the mediation of the British Government, by which the Thakore obtained the village of Sadankheri in the district of Shujawalpur (Gwalior) on the payment of Government Rs. 175 a year. This was also guaranteed by the British Government. The amount of the yearly rent is subject to a deduction of 2 per cent (Rs. 3—8) on the transfer of the village to Maharaja Sindhia.

By one of the Agreements, made at the time of the Settlement, a fixed allowance of Rs. 800 was formerly paid to the family of Thakore Subhag Singh.

This Agreement which bears the signatures of responsible British officers, recognises the grant of Kakarkheri to Lal Sinh, the brother of Subhag Sinh, whose line is now represented by the present Thakore Chand Sinh.

Genealogical tree.

Gunder Sinh.



DHABLA GHOSI.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—870.

Revenue.— 9,500 rupees.

The Thakore of Dhabla Ghosi receives under the terms of a Settlement effected with the British Government, in 1818, cash allowances amounting in all to Rs. 5000 a year.* The conditions of the Settlement and the relations of the Thakore with the different sovereign States and the British Crown are the same as in the case of Dhabla Dhir. Besides these allowances the Thakore holds a village in Shujawalpur on a nominal rent of Rs. 1,050 a year Gopal Sinh, the present Thakore, succeeded Govardhan Sinh, in the year 1854.

Residence.—Dhabla Ghosi, Bhopal Agency ; Central India.

DHAMANKA-RATANPUR.

Area.—3 sq. miles. Population.—921.

Revenue.—5,850 rupees.

Kashal Sinh, Sher Sinh and Dip Sinh, Gohel Rajputs by caste, are

* From Sindhia Rs. 2,300.

„ „ „ 300.

„ „ „ 1,400.

„ Dewas „ 100.

„ Bhopal „ 900.

Total..... 5,000.

the present Talukdars. They are *Bhayads* of the Bhavnagar Darbar. A tribute of Rs. 750 is paid by them to the Baroda State and Rs. 153 to the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have 3 independent tribute-payers. They have no civil and criminal powers. Dhamanka is 6 miles distant from the Dhola Railway Station.

Residence.—Dhamanka, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

DHAMI.

Area.—26 sq. miles. Population.—3,322.

Revenue.—8,000 rupees.

This petty State was founded in the 14th century of the Christian era and formed but an appanage of the larger State of Kahlur from which it was detached and recognised as an independent chief-ship at the close of the Gurkha war. On the 4th of September 1815, a *Sanad* was granted to Thakore Govardhan Singh, which contained the usual stipulations of rendering feudal service to the British Crown and of supplying forty work-men to the Sovereign Government. The last stipulation was subsequently commuted to a money-payment of Rs. 720 a year. The Rana of Dhami rendered material service to the Government during the disastrous Mutiny of 1857, and his services were rewarded by a reduction of his tribute to Rs. 360 during his life. The present Chief Fatteh Singh also obtained a similar concession in 1888, by which he obtained during his life a further remission of the tribute, which now amounts to only Rs. 360 a year.

Residence.—Dhami, Simla Hill States ; Punjab.

DHAMSIA.

Area.—10 sq. miles. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—4,092 rupees.

Kalubava, a Chauhan Rajput by caste, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 133 to the Gaekwad of Baroda. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by him. Dhamsia is an estate of the Sankheda Mewas.

Residence.—Dhamsia, Rewa Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

DHANGAON.

Nihal Singh succeeded to the annual grants of Rs. 1,484 from Sindhia and

Rs. 56 from Holkar, under the terms of an Agreement arrived at through the mediation of a British Officer, named Major Henry. Nihal Singh was succeeded by Mukund Singh, who received from Sindhia a grant of 36 villages in Harda and Hindia on a yearly payment of Rs. 1,001. On the transfer of these districts to the British Government, by the treaty of 1860, this payment is now made to the British Government, though no copy of the Agreement passed between Sindhia and Mukund Singh is now forthcoming. Mukund Singh was after his death succeeded by the present Thakore Hamir Singh. The estate of Dhangaon is now under the jurisdiction of the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

Residence.—Dhangaon, Indore Agency; Central India.

DHARI.

Area.—3½ sq. miles. Population.—1,200.

Revenue.—2,643 rupees.

Nathabhai, Shiv Singh, Khushalbai and Mokambhai, Solanki Rajputs by caste, are the principal share-holders. They are descended from the ancestors of the Thakore of Sonipur, from whom the estate of Dhari is received as *jivai*. The Talukdars pay a tribute of Rs. 951 to the Gaekwad of Baroda. They have no civil and criminal powers. Dhari is an estate of the Pandu Mewas.

Residence.—Dhari, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

DHARNAUDA.

Area.—91 sq. miles. Population.—4,196.

Revenue 9,000 rupees.

Chhatra Sal, the Thakore of Dharnauda, was granted a *Sanad*, by which he obtained 32 villages yielding an annual income of Rs. 9,000 on the same conditions as those imposed upon his brother chiefs of the province, Chhatra Sal was succeeded by Mangal Singh, after whose death Bharat Singh inherited the estate. Bharat Singh died in 1857, when his son Bhim Singh, the present Thakore, then a youth of 18 years, was recognised by the Supreme Government as the Thakore of Dharnauda.

Residence.—Dharnauda, Gwalior Agency; Central India.

DHAURA-KANJARA.

The Settlement with Dhaura was effected through the mediation of Sir John Malcolm and was similar to that with the Teza Tarwi of Men.* Although no copy of the Settlement is now available, yet the State-records of Indore contain a document which mentions that a monthly stipend of Rs. 55 was agreed to be paid for the safety of the highway between Simrol Ghat and Sigwar. The records also show that Maharaja Hari Rao Holkar granted an extra allowance of Rs. 25 a month in lieu of some sort of service agreed to be performed by the recipient of the stipend. Thus the total amount of cash allowance agreed to be paid to the holder of Dhaura was Rs. 80 a month, irrespective of certain dues levied by the Tarwi, on travellers and commodities passing through the adjoining districts.

The present Thakores of Dhaura are Badi Chand, Bhima and Somalia, all grand-sons of Bhima Tarwi; and Lakshman, nephew of Kishan, who died in 1869.

Residence.—Dhaura-Kanjara, Indore Agency; Central India.

DHENKANAL.

Area.—1,463 sq. miles. Population.—208,316.

Revenue.—120,502 rupees.

Dhenkanal is bounded on the north by Pal Lahera and Keunjar, on the east by Cuttack district and Athgarh, on the south by Tigaria and Hindol, and on the west by Talcher and Pal Lahera, and the Brahmini river.

Raja Sur Pratap Mahendra Bahadur, Kshatriya by caste, is the present Chief. He pays a tribute of Rs. 6,000 to the British Government. As the present Chief is minor, the State is under the direct management of the Government of India.

Residence.—Dhenkanal, Orrissa Tributary Mahals; Bengal Presidency.

DHI DHARAMRAI.

Dhi Dharamrai is a petty chiefship under the Bhil Agency of Central India. The chief Talukdar is a Bhil. The population chiefly consists of Bhils.

Residence.—Dhi Dharamrai, Bhopawar Agency; Central India.

*For the account of Men settlement see under 'Men.'

DHOLA.

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—300.

Revenue.—1,500 rupees.

Jethabhai, a Gohel Rajput of the Dewani branch by caste, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 325 to the Gaekwad of Baroda and Rs. 59 to the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. He has no civil and criminal powers. Dhola is 3 miles north-east to the Ujalwar Railway Station.

Residence.—Dhola, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

DHOLARVA.

Area.—4 sq. miles. Population.—330.

Revenue.—2,000 rupees.

Mulu, a Kathi of the Vala clan, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 103 to the Baroda State, and Rs. 23 to the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. He has no civil and criminal powers. Dholarva is 10 miles north to Lakhapadar.

Residence.—Dholarva, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

DHRAFA.

Area.—44 sq. miles. Population.—7,610.

Revenue.—60,000 rupees.

Sajubhai, Merji, Madhav Singh and Lakhaji, the present Talukdars, are Jadeja Rajputs by caste, and are the *Blhayads* of the Nawanagar Darbar. They pay a tribute of Rs. 3,706 to the British Government and Rs. 1,165 to the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have 9 independent tribute-payers. They have no civil and criminal powers. Dhrafa is 30 miles north-west from the Dhoraji Railway Station.

Residence.—Dhrafa, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

DHULATIA.

The Thakores of Dhulatia are Khichi Rajputs and are related to the Piplia family. Pirthaji, the grand-uncle of the present Thakore, was granted a *Sanad* by which he received a fixed allowance of Rs. 470 from H. H.

Maharaja Sindhia. Though the original *Sanad* is not now forthcoming, yet the title of the Thakore to that allowance is verified by a *Parwana* from Col. Sandys which is still in his possession. This yearly allowance is paid through the mediation of the Political Agent. Besides the above cash allowances from Sindhia, the Thakore is in receipt of two more allowances of Rs. 400 and Rs. 201 from H. H. Maharaja Holkar, which are paid to him direct. Out of these, the allowance of Rs. 400 is charged upon Mahidpur, while that of Rs. 201 upon the district of Dipalpur. These allowances were originally granted to Dhirat Sinh *alias* Nathaji, the eldest brother of Pirthaji. Besides these cash allowances, the Thakore of Dhulatia holds 100 *bighas* of land in the village of Kachoria Partap in the district of Mahidpur. Dhirat Sinh was after his death succeeded by his son Guman Sinh who in turn was succeeded by his brother Bharat Sinh. The latter died in 1868 leaving an infant son, Fatteh Sinh, who was duly recognised by the Supreme Government as his successor. He is the present Thakore of Dhulatia.

Genealogical tree.

Dhirat Sinh.

Guman Sinh.

Bharat Sinh.

Fatteh Sinh.

(The present Chief.)

Residence.—Dhulatia, Western Malwa Agency; Central India.

DHURWAI.

Area—18 sq. miles. **Population.**—1,598.

Revenue.—12,000 rupees.

The *Sanad* for Dhurwai was granted to Budh Sinh in the year 1823. After the death of Budh Sinh, his son Nahar Sinh succeeded to his rights. Dying in 1851, Nahar Sinh was succeeded by his son Ranjor Sinh, then only 17 years old, who is the present Thakore of Dhurwai. In 1882 Ranjor Sinh had to cede certain lands for the construction of the Betwa canal, for which he was given a fair compensation. The family of Dhurwai is divided into three groups, for the purposes of succession, and in 1883 the former orders regarding the sub-divisions and reversions of shares in two out of those three groups were to a certain extent

modified. It was thenceforth ruled that all future successions and devolutions were to be regulated by the respective claims of the different legal share-holders.

Residence.—Dhurwai , Bundel Khand ; Central India.

DODKA.

Area.—2½ sq. miles. Population.—5,00.

Revenue.—2,500 rupees.

No account has come to light of this Taluka. There are five Kunbi Matadars, who are not entitled to the revenues, but only to the Patelships. The balance after deducting the tribute to the Gaekwad's Government is expended after the improvement of the village. Its affairs are looked after by a Thandar. A tribute of Rs. 1,104 is paid out of the revenue to the Gaekwad of Baroda.

Residence.— Dodka, Rewa Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

DUDHAREJ.

Area.—12 sq. miles Population.—2,200.

Revenue.—18, 342 rupees.

Bhagwat Sinh and Ranmal Sinh, the present Talukdars, are Jhala Rajputs and *Blayads* of the Vadhwan Darbar. Their ancestor, Nanabhai, was the third son of Arjun Sinh, the Raja of Vadhwan, from whom Dudharej was received in *Giras* by Nanabhai in 1739. The present Talukdars pay a tribute of Rs.1,102 to the British Government and Rs. 97 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. They have three independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them. Dudharej is 2 miles north to the Vadhwan Railway Station.

Residence.—Dudharej, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

DUDHPORE.

Area.—¾ sq. mile. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—792 rupees.

Anup Sinh, a Molesalam Girasia, known as Rathod, is the present Chief. He is descended from the ruling family of Vajiria, from whom Dudhpore estate is received as *jivai*. The present Chief pays a tribute of Rs. 35 to the Gaekwad of Baroda. He has no civil and criminal powers. This

state is situated in the Sankheda Mewas.

Residence.—Dudhpore, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

DUGRIA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—237.

Revenue.—1,500 rupees.

Dugria was the share of Madur Baksha, the third son of Rajan Khan, the brother of the notorious Pindari, Chitu. This Rajan Khan was allowed a *jagir* of three villages, Piplianagar, Khajuria and Jabria Bhil, and the estates of Dugria and Jabria at the time of the Settlement of Malwa. This *jagir* was divided among his five sons, and hence Dugria fell to the share of Madur Baksha. He died in 1883, and was succeeded by his grandson Khuda Baksha, the present Chief.

Residence.—Dugria, Bhopal Agency; Central India.

DUJANA.

Area.—114 sq. miles. Population.—23,416.

Revenue.—65,000 rupees.

The estate of Dujana was originally granted by Lord Lake to an Afghan chief, Abdus Samad Khan, and his sons for life only, but subsequently the grant was made perpetual by a *Sanad* under the hand and seal of H. E. the Governor General dated the 4th of May 1806. The only conditions of the grant are unswerving fidelity to the British Crown and military service, whenever required. After the grant of the above *Sanad*, several *jagirs* were exchanged for the villages of Dujana and Meharna in Rohtak. Abdus Samad Khan died in 1825, and was succeeded by his son Dunde Khan, who dying in 1850 was succeeded by his son Hasan Ali Khan. In 1867, Hasan Ali Khan died, and the estate was inherited by his son Sadat Ali Khan, who expired on 15th October 1879, leaving behind him an only son Muntaz Ali Khan, then only 15 years old. The young Chief attained his age of discretion on 7th December 1882 when he was placed in sole charge of his estate. Muntaz Ali Khan was granted a *Sanad* of adoption which guarantees that any succession recognised by the Mahomedan Law will receive the confirmation of the Supreme Government.

Residence.—Dujana, Rohtak; Punjab.

GABAT.

Area.—15 sq. miles. Population.—1,662.

Revenue.—3,431 rupees.

Vaje Sinh, by caste Makwana Koli, is the present Talukdar. He pays Rs. 25 to the Idar Darbar, as a tribute. He is enlisted in the seventh class among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for one month and fine upto Rs. 50 in all the villages except the principal town Gabat, while in civil matters he is entitled to hear and dispose of suits unto the amount of Rs. 250.

Residence.—Gabat, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

GAD.

Area.—34 sq. miles. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—12,669 rupees.

This petty State is bounded on the north and east by Chhota Udaipur, on the south by the Narbada River, and on the west by the estates of Palasani and Virpur.

The Chief of this Taluka belongs to the family of the Chauhan king Khichi Hamir of Ghadha Gagroon, who won for himself an undying fame in the battle of Ranthambhor against Alla-ud-Din Khilji in 1300. The ancestors of the present ruler came direct from Malwa and seized the territories of a Bhil chief. No record is left as to the name of the founder nor as to the date of its foundation. The present Chief Chandra Sinh has made Boriad his permanent residence, the water and climate of Gad not agreeing with his health. A tribute of Rs. 475 is paid by him to the Raja of Chhota Udaipur.

Residence.—Gad, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

GADHALI.

Area.—5 sq. miles. Population.—2,185.

Revenue.—9,000 rupees.

Bhavaji, Risaluji and Amar Sinh, by caste Gohel Rajputs, are the

present Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 1,699 is paid by them to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and of Rs. 301 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have 3 independent tribute-payers. They have no civil and criminal powers. Gadhalī is 7 miles distant from the Unjalvav Railway Station.

Residence.—Gadhali, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

GADHIA.

Area.—11 sq. miles. Population.—777.

Revenue.—2,500 rupees.

Hipa and Champa, Kathis of the Vala clan, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 274 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and Rs. 21 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by the Talukdars. The Talukdars have 2 independent tribute-payers. Gadhia is 9 miles south-west from Lakhapadar.

Residence.—Gadhia, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

GADHKA.

Area.—23 sq. miles. Population.—2,252.

Revenue.—14,000 rupees.

This Taluka was received in *giras* by Akherajji, the third son of Ranmalji, the Thakore of Rajkot. Shiv Sinh, his descendant, by caste Jadeja Rajput, is the present Talukdar. He has studied at the Rajkumar College, Rajkot. A tribute of Rs. 643 is paid by him to the British Government and of Rs. 202 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. He is enlisted in the fifth class, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for 2 years and fine up to the value of Rs. 2,000, while in civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose suits upto the amount of Rs. 5,000. Gadhka is 10 miles distant from the Rajkot Railway Station.

Residence.—Gadhka, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

GADHULA.

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—355.

Revenue.—3,000 rupees.

Jaswant Sinh and Kalaji, by caste Gohel Rajputs, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 168 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and of Rs. 28 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have two independent tribute-payers. They have no civil and criminal powers. Gadhula is 5 miles distant from the Dhola Railway Station.

Besidence.—Gadhula, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

GANDHOL.

Area.—53 sq. miles. Population.—191.

Revenue.—2,000 rupees.

Hari Sinh, by caste Gohel Rajput, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 103 to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda and Rs. 8 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. He has no civil and criminal powers. Gandhol is 4 miles distant from Chok.

Residence.—Gandhol, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

GANGPUR.

Area.—2,484 sq. miles. Population.—73,637.

Revenue.—8,500 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by Lohardanga district and the State of Jashpur; on the south by the States of Bonai, Sambalpur, and Bamra; on the east by Singhbhum district; and on the west by the Raigarh State.

Raghunath Sikar Deo, a Kshatrya by caste, is the present Chief of Gangpur. The title of "Raja" was conferred upon him in 1871.

Residence.—Gangpur, Central Provinces; Southern India.

GAGRONI.

A Rajput adventurer of the Rathod clan migrating to Malwa from Marwad obtained possession of the district of Zirapur Machalpur at a time when the powerful satraps of the Mughal Emperors were not able to prevent the disruption of the different provinces entrusted to their care. It was after the conquest of Malwa by the Marathas that the Rajput Chief lost possession of that district which fell to the share of Holkar. The discontented Chief resorted to outlawry and began to plunder the neighbouring villages with such effect that Holkar instead of putting him down by force of arms, appeased him by the concession of Gagroni and several other villages. At the time of the Settlement of Malwa by Sir John Malcolm in 1820 his descendant Raghunath Singh was confirmed in the possession of these villages on condition of his paying to Holkar a sum of Rs. 1,500 every year.

On Raghunath Singh's death, his eldest son, Fatteh Singh claimed possession of the villages, but his legitimacy being disputed his claims were set aside after a full and impartial investigation of his title. His younger brother Surajmal was duly recognised as Raghunath Singh's successor. Surajmal died on 24th June 1862 without issue, nor was any adoption made during his life-time. In the absence of a direct male heir in the line of Raghunath Singh, the fief lapsed to Holkar as the last reversioner, who settled on the mother and widow of Surajmal an annual pension of Rs. 1,800 for life. The widow of Surajmal died in 1869 leaving a daughter Amarbai, who also died two years later in 1871. Though Amarbai was not entitled to get any allowance from Holkar, yet on her death the Maharaja as a mark of respect ordered to defray her funeral expenses (Rs. 1,020) from the State Treasury.

 GARHI OR BHATSAKHERI.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—824.

Revenue.—3,000 rupees.

Barjor Singh and Hathi Singh, the Bhumias of Khothide, received six villages in the *pargana* of Dharampuri from the Dhar Darbar through the intervention of Sir John Malcolm in 1819. They were in return held

responsible for the depredations of Bhils and bound not to harbour them. But subsequently Hathi Sinh relinquished his claim on the villages; so out of the six villages three passed to the Dhar Darbar and the other three were leased to Barjor Sinh. The late Bhumia Nahar Sinh succeeded his brother Lachhman Sinh in 1864 and died in 1890. The succession of Raghunath Sinh was sanctioned by the Government in 1892, when the *jagir* was affirmed to be a guaranteed Bhumiat.

Residence.—Garhi, Bhopawar Agency: Central India.

GARMALI MOTI.

Area.—2 sq. miles. Population.—327.

Revenue.—3,000 rupees.

Nathu, by caste Kathi of the Vala clan, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 196 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and Rs. 24 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by him. Garmali Moti is 9 miles distant from Lakhapadar.

Residence.—Garmali Moti, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

GARMALI NANI.

Area.—2 sq. miles. Population.—400.

Revenue.—2,500 rupees.

Hamir, by caste Kathi of the Vala clan, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 194 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. No civil and criminal powers are granted to him. Garmali Nani is 3½ miles distant from Lakhapadar.

Residence.—Garmali Nani, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

GARRAULI.

Area.—25 sq. miles. Population.—529.

Revenue.—25,000 rupees.

By far the most active and persistent opponent of the British occupation of Bundelkhand, Gopal Singh of Garrauli was in the services of Durjan Singh and Hari Singh, the grand-sons of Chhatra Sal. He had seized for himself the *pargana* of Kotra, at the time of Ali Bahadur's invasion. He held out against the English for a long time, but at last seeing the hopelessness of his situation, he agreed to surrender on condition of receiving some territorial grant. He received the *Sanad* in 1812. As a further inducement to submission, the Raja of Panna granted him eighteen villages. The Raja tried to annex to the grant a service tenure, but the Government decided against him in 1821, and Gopal Singh continued to enjoy the grant till his death in 1831 when the villages were resumed, the grant being for the life-time of the grantee. His son and successor Diwan Bahadur Parichat died in 1886. His recognized heir Randhir Singh died in 1883 and consequently he was succeeded by his grand-son Chandra Bhan Singh, an infant of but a few months. The right of adoption has been conceded to this State subject to a claim for *nazarana* of an amount of a quarter of a yearly revenue on each direct succession by adoption. The State receives a yearly rent of 4,500 rupees for the Artillery range and the grass preserve near Nowgong. In 1888 the civil and criminal jurisdiction of the State was ceded to the British Government.

Genealogical tree.

Gopal Singh.

Parichat.

Randhir Singh.

Chandra Bhan Singh.

(The present Chief.)

Residence.—Garrauli, Bundelkhand; Central India.

GAVRIDAI.

Area.—27 sq. miles. Population.—2,381.

Revenue.—14,000 rupees.

This Taluka was received in *jiwai* by Modji, the second son of

Meheramanji II, the Thakore of Rajkot, whose descendant **Pratap Sinh** is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 1,011 to the British Government and Rs. 610 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalba Hakka*. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. He is enlisted in the fifth class among the Kathiawad chiefs, so he is empowered to inflict rigorous imprisonment for 3 months and fine upto Rs. 500 in criminal cases, while in civil matters he is entitled to hear and decide suits to the amount of Rs. 1,000. Gavridad is 8 miles distant from the Rajkot Railway Station.

Residence.—Gavridad, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

GAURIHAR.

Area.—73 sq. miles. Population.—10,091.

Revenue.—50,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the east by Banda District and part of Hamirpur, on the north and west by Banda, and on the south by the Chhatarpur State.

Raja Ram was the governor of the Burhagarh fort in the service of the Raja of Ajaigarh. Like most of the powerful governors, he held the fort against his masters and stubbornly and successfully resisted every attempt made to reduce him to subjection. On the British occupation of Bundelkhand he figured at the head of a band of robbers. Though the Raja of Ajaigarh had undertaken to bring him round and to grant subsistence, he failed to do so either by conciliatory or warlike means; whereupon the Government sanctioned the offer of a reward of 30,000 rupees for his capture; But his good senses at last prevailed upon him and he submitted. He was granted a *jagir* in 1807 and lived till 1846. His son Rajdhar Rudra Sinh received the title of "Rao Bahadur" for his services during the Mutiny. When he died in 1877, he had no male issue and on his death bed, he requested the Political Agent to procure sanction to an adoption by his widow. In 1880 Raja Gajdhar Prashad was adopted by his widow till when the chiefship was under her management with the approval of the Government. He, too, died in 1887 without a male issue; and the Government was pleased

to select one Shamle Prasad as the successor to the chiefship, being a member of the collateral branch.

Genealogical tree.

Raja Ram.

Rajdhar Rudra Sinh.

Gajdhar Prashad.

Shamle Prashad.

(The present Chief.)

Residence.—Gaurihar, Bundelkhand; Central India.

GEDI.

Area.—11 sq. miles. Population.—1,327.

Revenue.—4,286 rupees.

Veraji and Kesaji, Jhala Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 1,200 is paid by them to the British Government and Rs. 139 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have 2 independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them. Gedi is 9 miles distant from the Limbdi Railway Station.

Residence.—Gedi, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

GHODASAR.

Area.—12 sq. miles. Population.—8,444.

Revenue.—39,710 rupees.

It is said that Vegadji the ancestor of the present Thakore of Ghodasar first migrated to Gujarat from Bundelkhand in the 12th century of the Christian era. He accepted service at the Court of Sidhraj Jaysinh Solanki, the illustrious king of Anhilwad Patan. The king rewarded his services with the grant of Dangarwa Taluka with 84 villages. Sultan Ahmud I, who ruled at Ahmedabad from 1411 to 1443 wrested these villages from Mayaji, the eighth in descent from Vegadji, and reduced him to

straitened circumstances. Mayaji first sought shelter in the temple dedicated to Bhragu Rishi in Chara near Haldharwas. One Bhan Rathod the Mewasi of Bharkunda was wandering as an out-law against the Sultan, and the task of destroying the rebel chief was entrusted by the Shah to Mayaji. The Rajput marched upon Bhan, and destroying him, took possession of his Taluka comprising 125 villages. The king in return for his services confirmed him in the possession of the newly acquired territory. Mayaji established his seat of government at Bharkunda. In the beginning of the 18th century when the moribund Mughal Empire was fast dissolving into nothingness, and the Marathas were raising their heads against the nominal government, Bharkunda and many of its villages were seized by the Maratha bands. The descendant of Mayaji, thereupon, removed his capital to Ghodasar. This Taluka now consists of only 15 villages. The ancestors of the present Thakore were Dabhi Rajputs, but one of them subsequently marrying a Koli bride, they lost their social status as Rajputs, and are now ranked among Kolis.

Thakore Dada Saheb inherited the patrimony on the death of his father Suraj Malji in 1883. He has studied at the Rajkumar College, Rajkot. Thakore Dada Saheb occupies the rank of a 4th class Chief in the Agency of Mahi Kantha. In criminal cases he is empowered to inflict punishment of rigorous imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year, and with fine upto Rs. 500. In civil matters, he is entitled to hear and decide suits upto the amount of Rs. 2,500. Ghodasar is about 9 miles distant from the Mehmedabad Railway Station.

Residence.—Ghodasar, Mahi Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

GIGASARAN.

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—623.

Revenue.—5,000 rupees.

Vajsur, Champraj and Samat, Kathis of the Babria clan, are the present Talukdars. They have four independent tribute-payers. No tribute is paid by them to any higher authority. • They have no civil and criminal powers. Gigasaran is 16 miles distant from Lakhapadar.

Residence.—Gigasaran, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

THE HIND RAJASTHAN.

GOTARDI.

Area.—1½ sq. miles. Population.—500.

Revenue.—840 rupees.

Ratan Sinh, Moka, Phulia and Sawa, Kolis by caste, are the present Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 425 is paid by them to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda through the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them.

Residence.—Gotardi, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

GUNDIALI.

Area.—15 sq. miles. Population.—1,796.

Revenue.—12,000 rupees.

Kasal Sinh, Jhala Rajput by caste, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 1,408 to the British Government. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by him. Gundiali is 8 miles distant from the Wadhwan Railway Station.

Residence.—Gundiali, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

HADOL.

Area.—10 sq. miles. Population.—3,000.

Revenue.—2,000 rupees.

Jawan Sinh, Koli by caste, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 112-10-8 to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda and Rs. 41 to the Idar Darbar as *Khichdi Hakka*. The Talukdar is ranked as sixth class Chief, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for 3 months and fine upto the value of Rs. 100, while in civil matters he decides suits upto the amount of Rs. 500. A Thandar is stationed here by the Political Agent of Mahi Kantha.

Residence.—Hadol, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

HALARIA.

Area.—6 sq. miles. Population.—1,066.

Revenue.—15,000 rupees.

Hathia, Alag and Hamir, Kathis of the Vala clan, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 102 to the Gaekwad of Baroda and Rs. 77 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have two independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them. Halaria is 12 miles distant from Lakhapadar.

Residence.—Halaria, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

HAPA.

Area.—5 sq. miles. Population.—5,500.

Revenue.—3,000 rupees.

Vakhat Sinh, Makwana Koli by caste, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 1,025-2-9 to the Gaekwad of Baroda and Rs. 218 to the Idar State as *Khichdi Hakka*. The Talukdar is ranked among sixth class chiefs, so he enjoys civil and criminal powers as the Talukdar of Hadol.

Residence.—Hapa, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

HASHAT BHAYA JAGIRS.

These jagirs were so called because the original Jagirdar of Baragaon Baya Sinh Deo divided it into eight shares for his eight sons. He was a descendant in the direct junior line of Bir Sinh Deo, the chief of Urcha, of which these jagirs formed a part. Of these eight, four jagirs Dhurwai, Bijna, Tori Fatehpur and Banka Pahari have maintained their distinct existence up to the present day. The rest Kari was resumed by the chiefs of Urcha and Pasrai formed part of the Jhansi territory. In 1821 at the time of granting *Sanads*, questions arose as to the respective claims over these jagirs of the Urcha and Jhansi States, and it was settled that they should be held to be directly dependent on the British Government. The tribute leviable by the Jhansi State to be paid through the British Government.

The chiefs of Urcha were required to pay a tribute of Rs. 3,000 to Jhansi on account of the reversion of the Taraoli jagir, but it was remitted by the British Government for the services rendered during the Mutiny. The Chirgaon jagir was confiscated by the Government in 1841 for the rebellion of the Jagirdar Bakhat Sinh. The account of the four remaining jagirs is given below:—

Dhurwai.—The present Jagirdar Diwan Ranjor Sinh succeeded his father Nahar Sinh in 1851 when only seven years of age, the Jagirdar to whom the *Sanad* was granted in 1823 being his grand-father Diwan Budh Sinh. The Jagirdar gave land for the construction of the Betwa Canal in 1882 receiving compensation in its stead. In 1883 The Government of India issued certain orders regulating the future devolution of the jagir amongst the family groups.

This estate covers an area of 18 sq. miles with a population of 1,774. The revenue is estimated to the amount of 11,000 rupees.

Bijna.—Khande Rao and Mukund Sinh succeeded in 1839 and 1850 respectively Diwan Surjan Sinh of Bijna.

This estate covers an area of 27 sq. miles with a population of 2,326. The revenue is estimated to the amount of 8,500 rupees.

Banka Pahari.—‘Banka’ is the title belonging to the Jagirdars of this jagir. Diwan Ishri Sinh was succeeded by his son Baje Bahadur in 1847 and his grandson Piarji Sinh in 1871. The direct male line being extinct the succession devolved on Diwan Sukh Saheb, the brother of the last Jagirdar. He, too, died childless in 1890, and the jagir passed to a cousin of the deceased, Diwan Meherban Sing.

The Government of India though entitled to a fourth of the net income of the jagir as *Nazarana* on succession passing to the collateral line, were pleased to accept a portion of their due on each of the two successions.

This estate covers an area of $4\frac{1}{2}$ sq. miles with a population of 1,098. The revenue is estimated to the amount of 8,000 rupees.

Tori Fatehpur.—The Jagirdar of Tori Fatehpur, Har Prasad, died in 1858; the jagir thereupon devolved on his adopted son Pirthi Sinh. As at the time of his succession he was a minor, the jagir was managed by the adoptive mother. On his death in 1880, the succession of his nephew Arjun Sinh was sanctioned by the Government; the widow of the late Jagirdar

having received him in adoption in compliance with the parting wishes of her husband.

This estate covers an area of 36 sq. miles with a population of 9,527. The revenue is estimated to the amount of 22,000 rupees.

HINDOL.

Area.—312 sq. miles. Population.—33,802.

Revenue.—20,890 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north and east by Dhenkanal State; on the south by Baramba and Narsingpur States; and on the west by the confiscated estate of Angal.

The State was founded by two brothers Lakshman and Bharat Maratha, who came over from Ganjam. The family title of Raja has been borne by the head of the family, but it was formally recognised by the British Government in 1874. The present Raja Janardau Mardraj Jagdeb succeeded his brother on the *gadi* in 1879.

Residence.—Hindol, Orissa Tributary Mahals; Central Provinces.

HINDUR OR NALAGARH.

Area.—284 sq. miles. Population.—54,032.

Revenue.—90,000 rupees.

In 1815 the British Government granted a *Sanad* to Rana Ram Sinh. He belonged to Kahlur family. The British Government gave him Bharauli in lieu of the fort of Malaun which they retained as a military post till 1846, Bharauli being subsequently transferred to the Balsan State. His son Bije Sinh died in 1856 without any male issue. The Government, however, were pleased to recognize Mian Aggar Sinh, an illegitimate son of the late Rana Ram Sinh, but a tribute of Rs. 5,000 per annum was imposed on him and his heirs. He died in 1876; the present Chief Tika Ishri Sinh is his son and successor.

Residence.—Hindur, Punjab; Northern India.

THE HIND RAJASTHAN.

HIRAPUR.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—1,000.

Revenue.—11,500 rupees.

The present Thakore Chhatar Singh succeeded his father Ram Singh in 1841, who as the adopted son of Bhairon Singh had succeeded him in 1826.

The Hirapur Thakores receive *Tankhas* of the amount of Rs. 6,449 from Indore, Gwalior and Bhopal. They receive a certain portion of *Tankhas* originally due from Sindhia, from the British Government on account of the transfer of the Nimar District. They also hold from Holkar certain villages on an estimrari tenure. They hold the villages of Kerocal and sixteen villages in Makrar from Sindhia and Dhar respectively as their grantees.

Residence.—Hirapur, Bhopal Agency ; Central India.

IJPURA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—421.

Revenue.—4,100 rupees.

Gobarji, Makwana Koli by caste, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 238-15-8 to the Gaekwad of Baroda through the Political Agent of Mahi Kantha. The Talukdar has power in criminal cases to inflict rigorous imprisonment for one month and fine upto Rs. 50, while in civil matters he is empowered to hear and decide suits to the value of Rs. 250.

Residence.—Ijpura, Mahi Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

ILOL.

Area.—40 sq. miles. Population.—5151.

Revenue.—29,000 rupees.

Vijaya Singh, the ancestor of the Thakore of this Taluka, was the second son of Keshar, a Rajput of the Makwana sect and a descendant of the ruling house of Patdi. One Bhathi Makwana, in the line of Vijaya Singh, went out abroad in search of fortune, and marrying the daughter of

a Khant Koli, threw in his lot with her relations. He acquired the Taluka of Ilol from them and the family went on increasing until it comprised within its scope the several branches now ruling at Ilol, Derol, Khedavada, Vakhtapur, Dedhrota and Prempur. The exact date of the origin of each is buried in oblivion, but it is certain that they are the descendants of the Makwanas.

Vakhat Sinhji, the present ruler, received his education at the Rajkumar College at Rajkot. He has the powers of a fourth class Sirdar, so he is entitled to inflict rigorous imprisonment for 3 months and fine upto Rs. 500, while in civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose of suits upto the value of Rs. 5,000.

Residence.—Ilol, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

INCHALKARANJI.

Area.—201 sq. miles. Population.—59,330.

Revenue.—214,660 rupees.

Narayan Rao, Brahman by caste, is the present Talukdar. He ascended the *gadi* on the death of his adoptive father Govind Rao Keshava. His adoption was sanctioned by the Paramount Power. During his minority the State was administered by the Kolhapur Darbar. A tribute of Rs. 2,900 is paid by the Talukdar to the Kolhapur State. The Talukdar has not been granted the right of adoption, but the succession is governed by the rule of primogeniture.

Residence.—Inchalkaranji, Kolhapur Agency; Bombay Presidency.

ITRIA GADHULA.

Area.—6 sq. miles. Population.—1,052.

Revenue.—4,000 rupees.

Ram, Kathi of the Khachar clan, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 252 to the British Government and Rs. 83 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by him. Itria is 13 miles distant from Babra.

Residence.—Itria, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

ITWAD.

Area.—4½ sq. miles. Population.—1,300.

Revenue.—2,056 rupees.

Nahar Sinh, Amar Sinh, and Bawaji, Rathod Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 601 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda through the Political Agent of Rewa Kanthā. No civil and criminal powers are granted to them.

Residence.—Itwad, Rewa Kanthā Agency; Bombay Presidency.

JABRIA BHIL.

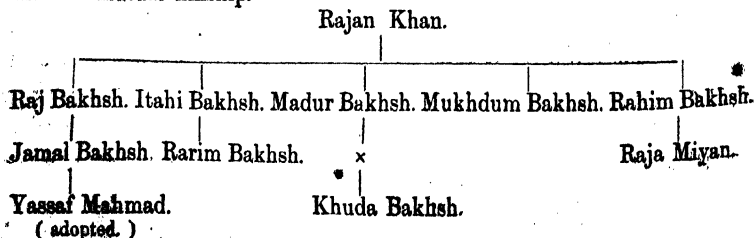
Area.—25 sq. miles. Population.—5,000.

Revenue.—15,000 rupees.

These jagirs better known as the Pindari jagirs were granted to Rajan Khan. He was the brother of the well-known Pindari leader Chitu, who at the time of the Settlement of Malwa was granted a pension of Rs. 3,600 (Sonat) and a residence at Gorakhpur. Subsequently he was allowed to return to Malwa and the jagir in lands was assigned in lieu of the annual pension in 1826. The three *jagiri* villages Piplianagar, Khajuria and Jabria Bhil are situated in Shujawalpur. The grant also included the villages of Dugri and Jabri on an *istimrari* tenure for an annual rent of Rs. 500.

On the exchange of the Eastern Shujawalpur to the Gwalior Darbar in 1831, the *jagir* passed within the jurisdiction of the State; but provision was made by which the Gwalior Darbar was required to respect the grant, and the question of succession was to be determined by the British Government and communicated to the State. In this year he died. Though the grant of the jagir was for the life-time of the grantee, it was graciously continued to his successors. The jagir was distributed among the five sons of the deceased.

The following genealogical tree has been appended to explain the sharers' mutual kinship.



Jabria Bhil.—Rāj Bakhsh received Jabria Bhil and Jabri. He died in 1874. His son Jamal Bakhsh succeeded him, but owing to maladministration the management was taken over by the Bhopal Agency, the chief being granted an allowance of Rs. 200 (1879). He died in 1886 and his nephew Yussaf Mahmud, a minor, succeeded him. The *jagir* is managed by an Amin appointed by the Political Agent.

Khajuria.—Ilahi Bakhsh received Khajuria as his share; he died in 1859. His posthumous son Karim Bakhsh succeeded him. The estate was temporarily placed under the Political Agent's superintendence between 1871 and 1881 owing to his mismanagement and the heavy debts incurred by him.

Dugri.—Madur Bakhsh received Dugri; he died in 1882 and was succeeded by his grandson Khuda Bakhsh.

Piplianagar.—This portion was passed to Mukhdum Bakhsh and Rahim Bakhsh. The latter died in 1892, and was succeeded by his son Raja Miyan.

JAFARABAD.

Area. —42 sq. miles. Population. —9,405.

Revenue. —45,000 rupees.

This State is owned by the Sidi Chiefs of Janjira. They were originally aborigines residing in Africa, but their forefathers are said to have come over to India from that continent. It is not exactly known when they migrated here, but this much is certain that as early as in the fifteenth century they were known as the Sidis of Janjira and Danda Rajpur in the Konkan. They received the *jagir* of Janjira from Mahmud Begada, the Padshah of Gujarat, in 1489, in recognition of their services as commanders in the navy of the Mussalman sovereign. They used to escort the fleets which carried Mahomedan pilgrims to Mecca till 1686. Then shirking off the supremacy of the Mughal Emperors of Delhi, they took to plundering merchant vessels of all nations except those of the English. They also came into direct conflict with the Marathas. In 1736-37 Baji Rao Peshwa deprived them of a great portion of their *jagir* in Janjira, but its impregnable fortress could not be stormed.

Jafarabad once formed part of the Mughal Empire, but as in the opening decade of the eighteenth century that colossal fabric was nearing its decay

and dissolution, the *Thandar* of that place assumed independence in 1731. With the Koli pirates as his comrades, he began to plunder not only the neighbouring country, but also the merchant ships plying between Surat and its adjacent ports. Sidi Hillal, a member of the Janjira family, who was then the governor of Surat, attacked Jafarabad and took all the Koli pirates prisoners. A heavy fine was imposed on the *Thandar*, who unable to pay it, procured his release by handing over to the victor the district of Jafarabad. Sidi Hillal posted there a military station for its defence. The constant dread to which he was exposed on account of the disorder and anarchy prevailing there, and the crushing burthen of a debt of 17,000 rupees induced him to go to Janjira in 1762 and sell his new acquisition to the Sidi ruler. He was thus able to discharge his liabilities. Sidi Hillal was appointed governor of that place and sent there with a few soldiers.

A treaty appears to have been concluded at this period between the Sidis, the English and the people of Jafarabad which was mainly directed to the development of maritime commerce. Jafarabad not being endowed by nature with anything which would make it an emporium of trade did not prosper even under British supervision. Being a favourite resort of the pirates none of the contracting parties was tempted to take possession of it.

The present occupant of the Janjira throne is Sidi Ahmud, who is the real owner of Jafarabad. An officer is deputed by him to look after its affairs. The State of Janjira is situated in the Konkan.

The State of Jafarabad is placed in the second class. Full criminal and civil powers are vested in its chief. Appeals from the decision of the officer posted at Jafarabad are heard by the Nawab Sahib of Janjira.

JAKHAN.

Area.—3 sq. miles. Population.—703.

Revenue.—1,573 rupees.

Oghadbhai and Haribhai, Jhala Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 242 is paid by them to the British Government and Rs. 46 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have two independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers

are granted to them. Jakhan is 4 miles distant from the Limbdi Railway Station.

Residence.—Jakhan, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

JALIA AMRAJI.

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—608.

Revenue.—2,200 rupees.

Koyaji, Sarvaiya Rajput by caste, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 128 to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda and Rs. 8 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. He has no civil and criminal powers. Jalia Amraji is 9 miles to the south-west of Palitana.

Residence.—Jalia Amraji, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

JALIA DEWANI.

Area.—36 sq. miles. Population.—2,383.

Revenue.—15,000 rupees.

Man Sinhji, Jadeja Rajput by caste, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 1181½ to the Gaekwad of Baroda and Rs. 370 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. He is placed in the fifth class among the chiefs of Kathiawad, so in criminal cases he is entitled to inflict rigorous imprisonment for two years and fine upto Rs. 2,000. In civil matters he decides suits upto the amount of Rs. 500. Jalia Dewani is 26 miles distant from the Rajkot Railway Station.

Residence.—Jalia Dewani, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

JALIA MANAJI.

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—180.

Revenue.—2,000 rupees.

Jasubha, by caste Sarvaiya Rajput, is the present Talukdar. A tribute of Rs. 31 is paid by him to the Gaekwad of Baroda. He has one in-

dependent tribute-payer. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by him. Jalia Manaji is 5 miles distant from Chok.

Residence.—Jalia Manaji, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

JAMKHANDI.

Area.—555 sq. miles. Population.—102,162.

Revenue.—4,62,142 rupees.

Gopal Rao Ramchandra, the Chief of the Jamkhandi house expired in 1840, and was succeeded by Ramchandra Rao Gopal, the present Chief, who is a first class Sirdar. The Chief pays a yearly contribution of Rs. 20,840-10-0 to the British Government in lieu of service stipulated to be performed by his ancestors.

Residence.—Jamkhandi, Kolhapur Agency; Bombay Presidency.

JAMNIA.

Area.—46,575 *bighas*. Population.—3,302.

Revenue.—16,000 rupees.

The Bhumia (land-lord) of Jamnia is descended from Nadir Sinh, the notorious freebooter in the western Vindhyas. He was succeeded by his son Bhiman Sinh, who on his death was succeeded by Moti Sinh. Moti Sinh died in 1863, and Hamir Sinh, the present Bhumia, succeeded him. He is educated at the Residency Rajkumar College at Indore.

The present Bhumia Hamir Sinh who succeeded his father Moti Sinh in 1883 is descended from Nadir Sinh, the notorious Robin Hood of the Western Vindhya, who flourished at the time of the settlement of Malwa by Sir John Malcolm. Through his mediation Holkar undertook to pay him *tankha* to the amount of Rs. 2,584 which undertaking was renewed in 1820 on Nadir's expulsion from Malwa, to his son Bhiman Sinh. Similar engagements were concluded in his favour with Sindhia and the Dhar state.

The village of Kheri is held from Holkar at an annual rent of Rs. 701 subject to a deduction of Rs. 150 for guarding the Dharjnapurpass. The rights of the Bhumia in this village are held to be perpetual by Government.

The right to exercise independent jurisdiction over 47 villages over and above lands guaranteed in 1820 to the Bhumia was questioned by Holkar, Sindhia and the Dhar Chief in 1868. This right was, however, subsequently affirmed subject to the control of the Political Agent though altogether free from the interference of neighbouring States.

Residence.—Jamnia, Bhopawar Agency; Central India.

JASDAN.

Area.—283 sq. miles. Population.—29,037.

Revenue.—100,000 rupees.

The rulers of Jasdan are Kathis of the Khachar clan. Prince Veraval, the son of Dhan, a Rajput king, who ruled at Dhonk (now a village in the Gondal State) married a Kathi princess, Rupde, who was the daughter of Visal Kathi. He was a descendant of Patkar, the eldest son of Kasta, the progenitor of the Kathis. Veraval being a Rajput prince was degraded to the position of a Kathi by his accepting the hand of a Kathi princess. Three sons, Valo, Khuman and Khachar were born to her, whose names afterwards became the patronymics of the three branches of the same family. The present ruler is a descendant of Khachar, and belongs to the Lakhani branch, which derived its name from Lakho, who flourished in Khachar's line several degrees removed from him.

Jasdan is a town of ancient renown. It was originally named Chashtan, from Swami Chashtan of the Kshatrapa family. When the Ghorī Mahomedans ruled at Junagarh, they built a strong fortress at Jasdan, and changed its name to Ghorigarh. Afterwards it passed into the hands of the Khumans of Kherdi, and in 1665, Vika Khachar seized it from Jasa Khuman.* Vika was the son of Mansia and grandson of Lakha Khachar, from whom his descendants began to be known as "Lakhani Khachars."

Vika Khachar died in 1685. He had two sons, Valero, who died in

* Colonel Walker in his report on Kathiawad says that the larger part of the estate was acquired from Meheramanji (son of Lakhaji), the ruling chief of Sardhar (Rajkot). It is said that Meheramanji assigned a portion of his territories to the Kathis, and made peace with them to prevent them from committing raids on and devastating the country round Sardhar. By virtue of the treaty Meheramanji gave to the principal ancestors of the Kathis, the jagirs of Jasdan, Bhatla, Anandpur, Mewasa and Bhadla.

his infancy, and Mansio, who succeeded his father. Mansio was killed in a fight, which took place with the Kathis of the Khuman branch. As he left no issue, his step-brother, Chelo I., came to the throne. When Chelo died, Odho succeeded, and on his death Vajsur ascended the *gadi*.

At the time of Vajsur's accession, he was very young and was therefore brought up under the immediate supervision of his uncle Jethsur Khachar, a warrior of great renown. His ancestors had exacted *pal*, or *valava* (a sort of tax) from Limbdi and several other villages in return for the protection given by them. On Harbhamji of Limbdi refusing to submit to that taxation, Jethsur led his bands against the Limbdi territory accompanied by his nephew Vajsur, and carried off all the property they could lay their hands on. In one of these inroads Jethsur lost his life.

After the death of the uncle full powers devolved on Vajsur. He was as well known throughout the country for his personal bravery and daring, as he was esteemed by his brother Kathis, who appointed him their head-man (*Ghardera*).

In 1788 Aratam, Dhandhuka and Ranpur were laid under contribution by Vajsur, who at length succeeded in enforcing his *pal* claims on them. In 1791 the chief of Limbdi had to sue for peace and come to terms with him by granting him a village and thus free his country permanently from his depredations. Vajsur extended his territories by seizing lands belonging to other Jamindars.

In the last years of his life, Vajsur Khachar abandoning his marauding pursuits, began to direct his attention to the improvement of agriculture and the development of the resources of the State.

Within a few days of the death of Meheraman, the Diwan of Navanagar, which took place in 1801, Vajsur Khachar went to pay respects to Maharaja Jasaji, the Jam Saheb. At the time of the interview he presented a mare to the Jam, who not liking it returned it to him. Vajsur who felt highly offended, gave it away to a common *Charan*. The Jam Saheb looked upon this as disrespectful to his dignity, and was much displeased. Vajsur cared nothing for his displeasure, and when he returned to Jasdan took to plundering the Jam's territories. The Jam attacked Jasdan with a large army. When Vajsur saw that he would not be able to make a stand against such immense odds, he withdrew with his family to Limbdi, and thence proceeded to Bhavnagar where he was kindly received by the reigning prince Vakhatsinhji. Jas-

dan was given up to fire and sword by the Jam, and after a few days, leaving there a small garrison he returned to Navanagar. Vajsur Khachar, on leaving Bhavnagar, went into outlawry against the Jam and carried on his depredations within his dominions. From the reign of terror which his ruthless raids spread throughout the State, the Jam Saheb sought for relief, and Jasdan was restored to the Khachar on his agreeing to desist from hostilities for eight years.

Though beset on all sides by adverse circumstances, Vajsur acquired such a prestige among his contemporaries that he was able to make his very name a safe passport throughout the whole province of Kathiawad. It was then customary in that province with travellers always to have a guard when travelling from one place to another; but to such an extent had the terror of his name prevailed that a note under his hand and seal stood them in equally good stead; such a note was as good as a number of armed men.

Vajsur Khachar, a gallant warrior and a man of many-sided activities, was numbered among the dead in 1810. He was succeeded by Chelo Khachar II. He did not take part in any of those varied exciting adventures as signalised his father's life, and quietly passed away at his capital in 1852, after a somewhat lengthy rule of 42 years. He was succeeded by his son Alo Khachar, who is at present ruling at Jasdan. He is an intelligent man, well known among the Kathis as possessing all the characteristics of his race. He has four sons, Odho, Jivo, Mansur and Najobhai.

Jasdan is a third class State, and consequently its ruler is empowered to inflict rigorous imprisonment for 7 years and fine upto Rs. 10,000. In civil matters he decides suits to the amount of Rs. 20,000. Jasdan is 30 miles distant from both Dhasa and Botad Railway Stations.

Genealogical tree.

Viko, Mansio, Chelo I., Odho, Vajsur and.—

Chelo II.

Alo. (The present Chief.)

Odho.	Jivo.	Mansur.	Najobhai.
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Residence.—Jasdan, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

JASHPUR.

Area.—1,497 sq. miles. Population.—90,240.

Revenue.—25,000 rupees.

The Raja Pratab Narayan Sinh Deo Bahadur, who belongs to a Kshatriya family, succeeded to the *gadi* in 1845. The State was feudatory to the Bhonsles of Nagpur, but in 1818 with annexation of Nagpur to the British Crown it passed under British control. The Raja was firm in his loyalty to the British Power during the Mutiny. He was created a C. I. E. in 1890.

Residence.—Jashpur, Chota Nagpur, Bengal.

JASO.

Area.—75 sq. miles. Population.—8,832.

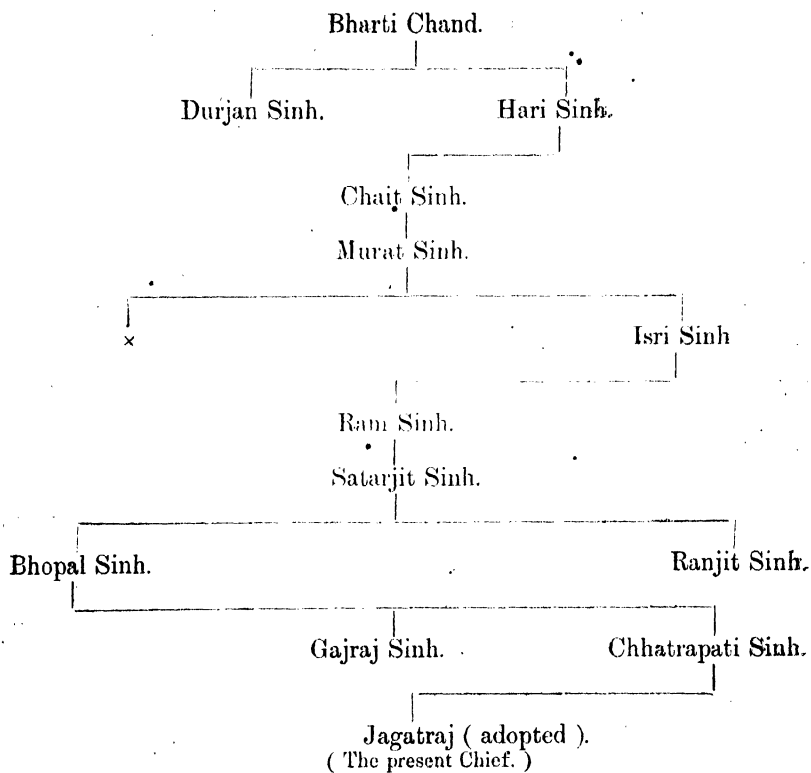
Revenue.—14,000 rupees.

When Chhatra Sal partitioned his possessions this *pargana* fell to the lot of Jagat Rai. In 1776 Jagat Rai divided his estate between his three sons, Guman Sinh, the ancestor of the Ajaigarh branch, Khuman Sinh of the Charkhari branch and Pahad Sinh of Jaitpur branch now totally extinct. In this distribution the Jaso district was given in equal shares to Guman Sinh and Khuman Sinh. It was, however, held by Bharti Chand, who left it to his two sons, Durjan Sinh and Hari Sinh, in equal shares. During the family quarrels, they maintained their hold over the district. On the death of Durjan Sinh without any male issue, the whole district passed successively to Chait Sinh, the son of Hari Sinh, and his infant son Murat Sinh. Jaso was conquered by Ali Bahadur, who put Gopal Sinh in possession of it. But being a servant of Murat's father he took him under his protection. In 1807, the question of the supremacy of the chief of Ajaigarh over Jaso arose and led to a good deal of bloodshed. In 1813, the British Government interfered and on enquiry held that Murat Sinh should acknowledge the sovereignty of Bakhat Sinh, the Ajaigarh chief, and should pay him, if not directly, through the British Government an annual tribute of Rs. 2500. Despite the decision of the Government, Murat Sinh persistently refused to recognize the Ajaigarh

supremacy. The Government, seeing that the Raja of Ajaigarh was not able to enforce his claims and finding the sense of other Bundelkhand chiefs against the Ajaigarh pretensions, reviewed their former decision, and on a fuller examination of the matter settled in 1816 that the Ajaigarh supremacy was but nominal; and made amends for their previous refusal to confirm him in his possessions by granting a *Sanad* confirming him in independent possession of his *jagir* and freeing him from all liability to pay quit-rent; at the same time remitting the Ajaigarh tribute by a like amount of Rs. 2,500.

* Murat Sinh was succeeded by his second son Ishri Sinh. He experienced some difficulty at the hands of his relatives. He confiscated the *jagirs* of Raghunath Sinh and Satarjit Sinh for their rebellious conduct, but the Government of India intervened and brought about the restoration of the Richat *jagir* to Raghunath Sinh subject to an annual payment of Rs. 1,000 to the Jagirdar of Jaso. They also procured an annual allowance of Rs. 1,000 only for Satarjit Sinh owing to his inability to manage his *jagir* properly in 1845. Ishri Sinh died in 1860. His minor son who succeeded, followed him within a few months. Thus the direct line of Murat Sinh became extinct with him. The representative of the collateral line, Satarjit Sinh, was recognized as the Jagirdar of Jaso in 1862. The right of reversion claimed by the Ajaigarh Raja was overruled. He, however, died in 1869. His son and grandson Bhopal Sinh and Gajraj Sinh succeeded him respectively in 1869 and 1876. At the Imperial Assemblage, Gajraj Sinh received the title of "Diwan Bahadur" as a personal distinction. He lived till 1888. As he had no male issue, his brother Chhatrapati Sinh succeeded him who survived but a few months. On his death in 1889 the succession of Raja Jagatraj, Ubaridar of Richat, the present Chief of Jaso, was sanctioned by the Government, he being the representative of the nearest collateral line. He has inferior criminal and civil powers.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Jaso, Bündelkhand ; Central India.

JATH.

Area.—979 sq. miles. Population.—76,797.

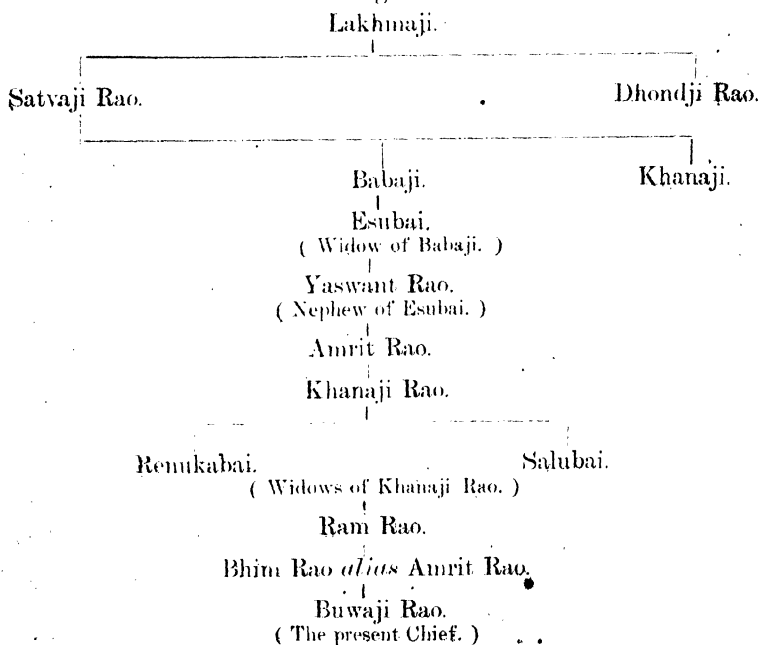
Revenue.—1,97,319 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by Sangola in Sholapur and Mangalvedha in Sangli, on the east by Indi and Bijapur, on the south by Athni in Belgaum, and on the west by Sangli and Miraj.

The Chief of Jath claims his descent from Lakhmaji Bin Eldaji Chauhan, headman of the village of Daphlapur. He had two sons, Satvaji Rao, and Dhondji Rao, of whom the former on payment of a *nazarana* to Ali Adilshah, king of Bijapur, was in 1680 appointed *Deshmukh* of the districts of Jath, Karajgi, Bardol and Vanvad. Satvaji Rao continued to be a leading nobleman at the court of Bijapur till the final overthrow of that kingdom by Emperor Aurangzeb in 1686. The *Deshmukh* for a time assumed entire independence, but was soon brought round by Aurangzeb, who conferred on him Jath and Karajgi in *jagir*, and Jath, Karajgi, Vanvad and Bardol as *vatans*. Satvaji Rao lost during his life-time his two grown up sons, Babaji and Khanaji, and thus left without issue, the estate devolved after his death upon Esubai, the widow of his eldest son, Babaji. In 1754 Esubai died and was succeeded by her nephew Yashwant Rao, who dying in 1759 was succeeded by his son Amrit Rao. After his death the estate was inherited by his son, Khanaji Rao, who had married two wives Renukabalai and Salubai. The British Government entered into an engagement with the senior Rani in 1818, by which all her possessions were confirmed to her. Renukabalai died in 1823, and was succeeded by Salubai, who after a brief enjoyment of the estate died without leaving any male issue. The *jagir* in the absence of a successor in the direct line of Satvaji Rao lapsed to the kingdom of Satara. In 1824, however, it was granted to Ram Rao Bin Narayan Rao, a collateral member of the family. Ram Rao died in 1835 without issue, and the Raja of Satara once more exercised his reversionary right by attaching the estate which he managed till 1841, when it was conferred upon Bhagirathibai, the widow of Ram Rao. She, in 1841, with the permission of the Satara Government adopted one Bhim Rao Bin Bhagwant Rao, who assumed the name of Amrit Rao. During the minority of Amrit Rao the estate was managed by Bhagirathibai. On her death in 1845, Sakhoji Rao Samant was appointed manager, which place he continued to occupy till 1855, when Amrit Rao was vested with full control over the *jagir*. The complaints raised against the maladministration of Amrit Rao were so numerous and serious, that the Bombay Government thought it

proper in 1872 to appoint Captain West, as a special officer, to enquire into the alleged grievances of the subjects of Jath. That officer submitted an unfavourable report and the Chief was divested of both civil and criminal jurisdictions over his subject population. This arrangement lasted till 1883 when the Chief was allowed a share in the management of his estate as Joint Administrator along with a British officer. In 1885 the entire management was once more made over to him on his agreeing to strictly follow the instructions imparted to him by the British Government. When reinstated on the *gadi*, he shewed no signs of improvement and at times acted in direct contravention to the conditions imposed on him in 1885. At last in 1891, it was found expedient in the interests of the State to set him aside altogether and award him an annual pension of 20,000 rupees. Amrit Rao died a British Pensioner on 12th January 1892, and the succession of Buwaji, a young boy aged six years, has been sanctioned by the Supreme Government. The Chief of Jath pays a tribute of Rs. 4,846 to the British Government. He also pays Rs. 950 to the *Panth Pratinidhi* of Aundh. Jath is 95 miles to the north-east of the Belgaum Railway Station.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.--Jath, Satara District : Bombay Presidency

JAWASIA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—600.

Revenue.—10,000 rupees.

The Thakores of this estate are Sisodiya Rajputs of Bhadnagar family. Before the family settled here, it successively occupied Dipalpur, Bararh, and Tajpur. At the time of the Settlement of Malwa, Sher Singh and Gulab Singh were the Thakores with whom engagements were concluded. Bhairon Singh who succeeded them died in May 1883. Rawat Lal Singh, who succeeded Bhairon Singh, is the present Jagirdar.

By virtue of the Settlement concluded, the *tankhas* payable to the Thakores by Holkar, Sindhia and the chief of Dewas were fixed at Rs. 5176-3. They also hold certain villages (Jawasia, Gurkheri and Chaplakheri) on quit-rent tenure in the territories of the Dewas chief as also extensive *jagirs* in that state.

Residence.—Jawasia, Western Malwa Agency; Central India.

 JHALERA.

The present Thakore is Hati Singh, who succeeded his father in 1884. He receives *tankha* of Rs. 1,200 from Sindhia and half the amount of the *tankha* is granted to the Kharsia Thakore by the senior Dewas chief. As regards his political status, he is on the same footing as his kinsman, the Thakore of Kharsia.

 JAWHAR.

Area.—534 sq. miles. Population.—48,556.

Revenue.—100,000 rupees.

The territories comprised within this State were acquired by a Koli freebooter Jaya Mukney in 1335, and the title of Raja for the head of the family was procured by Nim Shah, the son of Jaya Mukney, in 1341 from the Emperor of Dehli. The present Raja Malhar Rao *alias* Patang Shah was adopted on payment of a *nazarana* to the Paramount Power by

the widow of the late Raja Vikram Shah in 1866. The Raja decides first class Magisterial and session cases. He also hears appeals from the decisions of subordinate officers.

Residence.—Jawhar, Bombay Presidency; Western India.

JETPUR.

Area.—578 sq. miles. Population.—93,000.

Revenue.—8,00,000 rupees.

The State of Jetpur though comprising an extensive area is apportioned among numerous Kathis of the Vala descent. The traditional account of the Kathi race fixes its origin at the end of the *Dwapar* age. Nearly four thousand years before the birth of Christ, the powerful monarchy of Hastinapur was involved in the vortex of a civil war. The jealousies between the Pandavas and Kauravas were, however, temporarily silenced by an equal partition of the empire between them. One-half of the territories was assigned to the five brothers (Pandavas) between them all; and the other was retained by the Kauravas. The Pandavas lost everything from their dearest consort Draupadi, down to the meanest of their worldly concerns which they pledged in gambling with their rivals, the Kauravas. A second game was played on condition that the losing party should undergo a banishment for twelve years, and pass the thirteenth year in absolute concealment. Having lost the game, the five brothers, with Draupadi, retired into the forest. Twelve years they passed in banishment and the thirteenth year they passed at the court of Vairat (the modern Dholka) in disguise, accepting menial service under the ruling chief.

Though the Kauravas suspected Vairat to be their hiding place, they could not exactly lay their hands upon their persons. The Pandavas had another 12 years' exile at stake in case of detection. Duryodhan at last thought of resorting to cattle-lifting within the boundaries of the Vairat territory. He thought that the Pandavas being true Kshatriyas were sure to resent and violently oppose their attempt to carry away cows from Vairat. But a grave difficulty stood in their way. As true Kshatriyas, they were prohibited from taking any part in such an impious attempt. Their minister, Prince Karan, the offspring of the Deity Sun, thereupon struck against the earth a small stick, and a man soon emerged from within the bowels of the earth. The man thus produced was named Kashta (stick), a term indicative of his

origin. He was employed to carry out their plan of cattle-lifting. He was rewarded with the government of Pawar, a district in Kutch. The boon thus conferred on Kashta by his progenitor Karan was significant enough, for said he:—"Thy children will live on robbery, and especially engage themselves in cattle-lifting, and the Almighty will forgive them the sins they so commit." His descendants still look upon cattle-lifting as an honourable profession. Among the descendants of Kashta the morning time of the day is still known as Karan's quarter; and their documents bear the emblem of the sun.

Kashta was married to an Ahir's daughter, to whom eight sons were born:—Patkar, Pavara, Manjario, Toria, Bel, Jobalia, Nared and Natho: each of whom became the head of a distinct branch.

After several generations, the word Kashta was corrupted into Kathi by which term his descendants began popularly to be known. For several years they stayed at Pawar from which a severe famine drove them to Kathiawad. They settled themselves in a village, situated in that portion of the country surrounded by the Barda Hills near Dhank—a village now owned by the Gondal State, though fallen from its ancient grandeur.

Rajput chiefs were reigning at Dhank, and at the time of the migration of the Kathis from Pawar, Dhan Valo held sway over the province. He had a son Veraval, who was fascinated by the charms of the beautiful Rupde, the daughter of Visla Kathi, a representative of the eldest branch, and was in course of time joined to her in lawful wedlock. A Rajput by origin, Prince Veraval, by thus accepting the hand of a Kathi bride, degenerated himself into a Kathi. Three sons Valo, Khuman and Khachar were the issues of the marriage; from each of whom, the three principal branches of the family derived their names. Though Veraval by his marriage was lowered to the position of a Kathi, his descendants came to be distinguished as 'Sakhawat Kathis' or Kathis of blue blood; as distinguished from the rest, who were called 'Auratia' i. e. inferior Kathis. Veraval was raised to the dignity of a Raja, to which he was by his birth entitled, by the Kathis, who all accorded him a willing obedience.

The Kathis are said to have returned to their father-land in Kutch; but in 1400 the Kutch monarch having formed an illicit alliance with a married Kathiani, and obtained for her a complete divorce from her lawfully wedded husband, the Kathis rose against him and killed him. To avert the resentment of his successor they fled back to the province of Kathiawad.

They were pursued by the Kutch force as far as Than. Here acting on a hint received by their old leader in a dream, the Kathis fell furiously on their pursuers and succeeded in scattering them.

The Kathis now settled at Than and began gradually to dispossess the Babarias of their villages. Here they lived for a very long time, maintaining themselves by pasturing herds of cattle in the neighbouring jungles, and at times plundering their uncautious neighbours. This sort of life they led till the end of the sixteenth century, when a spirit of change came over their mode of life. They began to people new villages, while some of them took to agriculture. Thus they made a fair beginning towards the foundation of a powerful monarchy.

Advancing from Than, * they made their first move to Sudamda, Gadhdha and Bhadli. From these quarters they bounced on neighbouring districts and acquired a small territory. They then spread themselves over the whole country from Than to Santhli, a village near Amreli, and imperceptibly made themselves masters of Vasavad and other places. By the same process of unnoticed encroachment, they obtained the district of Alaghdhanani. Later on they began to lay waste the territory of Sardhar by their merciless plunders. Meheramanji purchased security from further molestation by agreeing to assign to the elders of the Kathis, Khadla, Jasdhan, Anandpur, Mewas, Bhadla and several other places.

In the opening years of the eighteenth century which saw the decay of the Mughal Empire and the rise of the Maratha supremacy the Kathis acquired several possessions. The Sarvaiya Rajputs who were ruling over Chital could not defend their vast principality against their inroads. They, therefore, reserving to themselves a large portion of it, made over the rest of it to the Kathis in 1735. Their example was followed by the other Sarvaiya Rajputs.

Jetpur, Bilkha and Dedarda were then inhabited by the Khant Kolis and other lawless tribes, whose turbulence was too much for the limited resources of the Nawab of Junagarh to suppress. These districts were, therefore, assigned over by him to the Kathis in 1760. From the date of their settlement at Chital, the Kathis gave up the law of primo-

* Than is at present in Lakhtar state. Near this place, there are the shrines of Vesangji, Surya Deval and Papnash. They are deeply revered by the Kathis. Here many Kathis have immortalized themselves by meeting a glorious death on fields of battle.

geniture in favour of equal partition of their estate amongst all brothers, a practice still obtaining among them.

In 1792-93, the Kathis of the Khuman branch of Kundla, the Vera Vala of Jetpur, the Kumpa Vala of Chital, Vajsur Khachar of Jasdan, and other Kathis of Paliyad, Thebhani, Chotila, Botad, Gadhdha and other places assembled at Chital, and collecting a large army made preparations for an attack upon Bhavnagar. Vakhat Sinhji, the ruling chief of that State, apprized of this, meditated attack, forestalled them by a counter move on Chital with the assistance of the junior members of his family, and confining them within their meeting place, besieged them within their own homes. He at the same time lay encamped within a gun shot distance from the town. The Kathis had not yet acquired any skill in the art of bombardment. They, therefore, left the place in small numbers until a handful of them remained there to guard the castle. Vakhat Sinhji then stormed the citadel and made Kumpa Vala's brother prisoner. The Kumpa Vala and other Kathis retreated to Jetpur and Vajsur Khachar to Jasdan. Afterwards, though Kumpa Vala's brother was released, a garrison was posted at Chital by the Bhavnagar Darbar. In 1797-98 the Thakore saw the wisdom of reconciling the Kathis and re-calling the garrison from Chital. He restored the neighbouring territory to Kumpa Vala, and treated with the other Kathis in the same liberal spirit.

The Kathis, finding that the fortification of Chital was weak enough to be easily stormed by the enemy as was recently done by the chief of Bhavnagar in 1792-93, determined to fortify Jetpur, which then became their chief centre, and they bodily removed from Chital to their new capital.

In 1804 Diwan Babaji of Gaekwad attacked Jetpur, the bombardment lasting for about a month without producing any effect on its walls. He retired on the payment of tribute for three years which amounted to a sum of Rs. 90,000.

In 1821, the Khumans of Kundla attacked Vanda, a village belonging to the Thakore of Bhavnagar, plundered it and carried off the cattle. The dispute assumed a serious aspect, and a British contingent under Colonel Barnewall was ordered to proceed to the scene of disturbance, which took up its quarters at Amreli. Vaje Sinhji of Bhavnagar informed that officer that the Khumans were supported by the Kathis of Jetpur and Chital. Though, on enquiry, the information proved to be false, they were called upon to furnish securities for preserving peace in the province.

In 1823, the Khumans drove away herds of cattle from Junavadar and shut themselves up in Valardi and Gugarala villages under Jetpur. Vaje Sinhji sent an army against them which succeeded in taking prisoners, Harsur, Golan, and Kamaribai, the sons and daughter of Jogidas Khuman whom they carried to Kundla. Captain Barnewall on being informed of this, summoned the heirs of Mulu Vala and others of Jetpur, and made them prisoners. The British Government took possession of the whole *Taluka*.

Within a few days of the above-said incident the Vala sharers of Jetpur expressed their willingness to hand over the Khuman refugees to Vaje Sinhji according to the wishes of the Government, and Vala Vikamsi together with the brother chiefs of Jetpur, Khachar Chelo of Jasdan, Khachar Bhan of Bhadli, Vala Harsur of Bagasra, and Danto Kotilo of Dedan stood securities for them.

The Vala sharers were set at large and their possession of Jetpur was once more restored to them. They afterwards arrested Khuman Jogidas, Khuman Hado and their relatives, Viro, Bhan, Bhim, Ram, Pitho and Lakho, and produced them before Captain Barnewall, who sent them to Bhavnagar with the Vala sharers of Jetpur to bring about a friendly settlement with the Thakore of Bhavnagar. No satisfactory solution of their difference was, however, arrived at. They again went into outlawry, and destroying rich crops in the villages of Jesar under Undsarvaiya, and plundering several other villages, they shut themselves up in the retreats of the Gir forest. In 1829, the Khumans were reconciled with the Bhavnagar Darbar. With the advent of the British rule, order has been restored throughout the province and the Kathis have settled themselves down to peaceful pursuits.

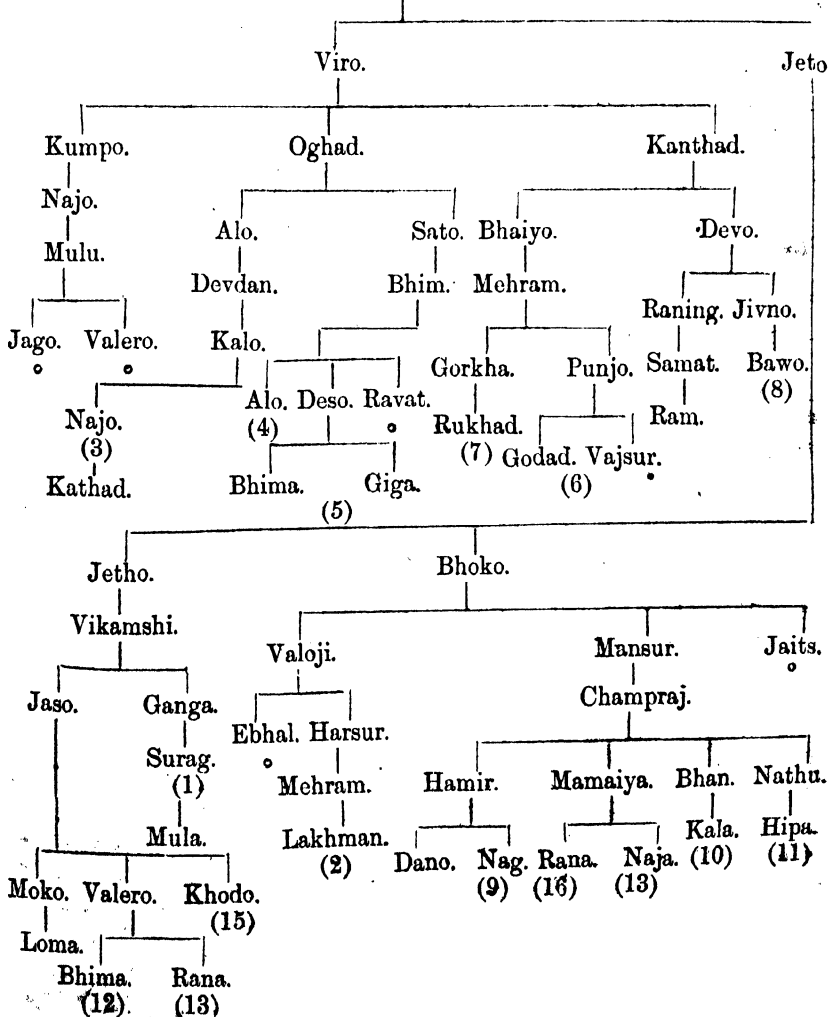
There is another account current about the Kathis, according to which the old home of the Vala Kathis was old Devalia, from which quarter, they seized Chital and subsequently Jetpur, Mendarda and Bilkha. There are two different accounts relating to the capture of Jetpur. One of them represents it to have been granted by Bahadur Khanji, the Nawab of Junagarh, to Vira Vala; while according to the other, the Vala Kathis of Bagasra, who were on hostile terms with Vajia Khasio of Mitala, obtained support from Vira Vala and Najo of Chital, in lieu of whose services Jetpur was granted to them by the Vala Kathis, who originally acquired it from Kharedia Baloch.

Vala Champraj had a fair daughter, whose hand was sought in mar-

riage by Samas Khan; but the father did not approve of the proposed marriage, which led to the plunder of Kileshwar and the subsequent capture of Jetpur. Though no less than 1800 of his followers fell in the struggle Champraj did not swerve an inch from his bold resolve. When he saw that defeat was inevitable, he cut off the head of his daughter and in a desperate sally he with his followers perished to a man. Subsequently Jetpur was recovered by his descendants.

Sixteen Kathis of the Vala branch are the present rulers of Jetpur, who are all descendants of Vala Naja Desa. To obtain a clear view of their mutual connection, their pedigree is given below.

Genealogical tree.
Vala Naja (Desa's son.)



Nos.—1, 2 are empowered with third class personal power, *i. e.* in criminal cases they can inflict seven years' rigorous imprisonment with a fine of Rs. 10,000 and can dispose of civil suits upto the value of Rs. 10,000. The *Taluka* is in the fourth class.

No.—3 is invested with fourth class power; he can pass sentence to the extent of three years' rigorous imprisonment with a fine of Rs. 5,000 and can dispose of civil suits to the value of Rs. 10,000.

Nos.—4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 are invested with fifth class power by which they can inflict sentence of two years' rigorous imprisonment with a fine upto Rs. 2,000, while in civil cases they can decide suits to the extent of Rs. 5,000.

Nos.—9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 are empowered with sixth class power *i. e.* in criminal cases they inflict rigorous imprisonment for six months and fine upto Rs. 200. In civil cases they hear and decide suits to the amount of Rs. 500.

Nos.—15 and 16 are divested of their powers.

They are all entitled to exercise their powers within their own individual estate.

JIGNI.

Area.—21½ sq. miles. Population.—3,904.

Revenue.—14,000 rupees.

At the time of the British occupation of Bundelkhand, Prithi Sinh, as the Chief of the State, was in possession of fourteen villages, which were attached by the Government, but subsequently in 1810, a *sanad* granting six villages was given to him. He died in 1830 leaving no son; but a posthumous son, Bhopal Sinh, was born to him, who was recognised as his successor. During his minority, the estate was managed by the late chief's widow. She, however, did not pull on well with her official advisers. A dispute arising between them, the Government entrusted the administration to a near kinsman of the young *jagirdar*, who was directed to act under the supervision of the Agent. In 1845 the Chief came to the age of discretion, and he was placed in charge of the State, but owing to his weakness he allowed matters to be drifted to such a pass that the Government resumed charge of the State in 1855. He expired in the month of October 1870, having received a *sanad* of adoption in 1862.

On his death, Lachhman Sinh, the youngest son of Maharaja Nirpat Sinh of Panna was adopted. The State was administered under the superintendence of the Government till 1881 when he assumed direct management of his patrimony. At the Delhi Assemblage of 1877 he received the title of ' Rao Bahadur' as a personal distinction.

Lachhman Sinh died in 1892, and was succeeded by Rao Bhan, Partab Sinh, who is the present Chief of Jigni.

Genealogical tree.

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      Padam Sinh.
        |
        x
      Prithi Sinh.
        |
      Bhopal Sinh.
        |
    Lachhman Sinh.
        |
      Partab Sinh.
    ( The present Chief. )
  
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Residence.—Jigni, Bundelkhand ; Central India.

JOBAT.

Area.—132 sq. miles. Population.—15,047.

Revenue.—17,000 rupees.

The late Rana Ranjit Sinh died in 1874, leaving a minor son Sarup Sinh. As he has not yet been found sufficiently qualified to manage his estate, he has not been put in independent charge of the State. It still continues to be under British management. Rana Sarup Sinh is educated at the Rajkumar College at Irdore. The population consists chiefly of Bhils.

Residence.—Jobat, Bhopawar Agency ; Central India.

JUBBAL .

Area.—289 sq. miles. Population.—21,412.

Revenue.—30,000 rupees.

In 1815 Rana Puran Sinh received *sanad* confirming him in independent possession of the State. Previous to that he was a tributary of the chief of Sirmur, with whom the *jagirdar* claims kinship. Owing to his misgovernment, he was admonished by the Supreme Government,

whereupon he relinquished charge of his estate in 1832, receiving an annual allowance of Rs. 4,400 only. But he soon found his new position quite irksome and desired to revert to his old Chiefship. He, however, died in the same year in which the Government resolved to accede to his wishes. His son, Karam Chand, was put in charge of the State. He was a minor at the time, and the State was consequently managed by a representative of the British Government. In 1853 on the completion of his minority he was put in independent charge of the State, but subsequent mismanagement led to the curtailment of his powers in 1859. By 1862 it was found out that the chronic disorder was due less to the incompetence of the Rana than to the defiant spirit of his Diwan. He was expelled from the State and the Rana was restored to full powers. He died in 1877 and his son, Padam Sinh, the present Rana, succeeded him.

Residence.—Jubbal, Punjab ; Northern India.

KACHHI BARODA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—4,979.

Revenue.—30,000 rupees.

The settlement effected by Sir John Malcolm in 1818 with Thakore Bhagwant Sinh guaranteed to him sixteen villages for an annual payment of Rs. 9,459 to the Dhar Darbar, at the same time imposing on him an obligation to preserve the peace of the same. He died in 1859 without any male issue and his widow adopted the present Thakore Dael Sinh. The British Government extended its guarantee to him in 1864 which by the action of the Political Agent had ceased to be in operation in ignorance of the Supreme Government. Kachhi Baroda is 8 miles distant from Badnawar.

Residence.—Kachhi Baroda, Bhopawar Agency ; Central India.

KADANA.

Area.—130 sq. miles. Population.—12,000.

Revenue.—22,256 rupees.

The State of Kadana is bounded on the north and the east by the

territory of Dungarpur, on the south and the south-east by the State of Sunth, and on the west and the south-west by the Lunawara and other States of Rewa Kantha.

Jalam Sinh, the founder of this chief-ship, established himself at Jhalod, after leaving his home at Chandravati near the foot of Mount Abu. After his death six chiefs securely occupied the *gadi*, but the last of them Jalam Sinh II. fell in a skirmish with the Moslems in 1247. Jhalod thus passed into the hands of the Mahomedan invaders. His two sons, Sant and Limdevji, left the scene of action which brought about a total ruin of their house, and took refuge in the neighbouring *jungles* near the place, where Sunth at present stands. Sant induced his companions to settle at a place to which he gave the name of Sunth in 1255, and set up an independent principality. Limdevji proceeded a little further to the north of Sunth and founded his chiefship at Kadana. The regions where he first settled with his followers were the mountain gorges (*खंड*) which gave that place the name of Kadana.

The successors of Limdevji were Made Sinh, Dharuji, Sultan Sinh, Sardul Sinh, Bhim Sinh I., Khan Sinh, Bhojrajji, Raghavdasji, Akheranji, Surajmalji I., Limbji, Jagrup Sinh, Anup Sinh, Umed Sinh, Daulat Sinh, Devi Sinh, Surajmalji II., Bhim Sinh II., Vakhat Sinh, and Parbat Sinh. The neighbouring chiefs could never exact tribute from Kadana, peopled as it was by the warlike and intrepid Bhils. The late Chief of Kadana was on hostile terms with the late chief of Sunth, Bhavani Sinh, who always claimed to be the liege-lord of the Chiefs of Kadana; but at length the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha decided that the chiefship of Kadana was quite independent of Sunth.

Parbat Sinh died on the 4th April 1889, and his only son, Partap Sinh, having died in his life-time he was succeeded by his adopted son, Chhatra Sinh, who was then a minor. During his minority the State is under British management. A *Japtidar* is appointed to look after its affairs. Chhatra Sinh is receiving his education at the Wadhvan Talukdari Girasia School.

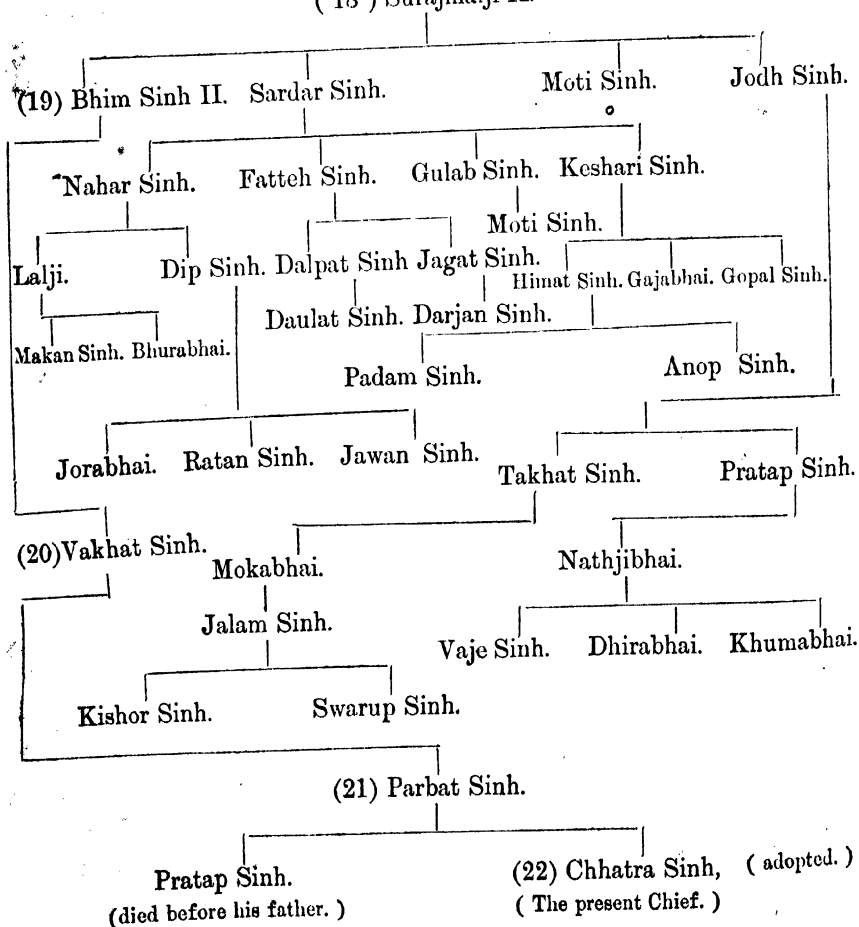
The Chief of Kadana is a fourth class chief among the Rewa Kantha chiefs, so he enjoys criminal powers to inflict rigorous imprisonment for three years and fine upto Rs. 5,000. In civil cases he hears and decides

suits to the amount of Rs. 10,000. Kadana is 45 miles distant from the Godhra Railway Station.

Genealogical tree.

(1) Limdevji, (2) Made Sinh, (3) Dharuji, (4) Sultan Sinh, (5) Sardul Sinh, (6) Bhim Sinh I., (7) Khan Sinh, (8) Bhojrajji, (9) Raghavdasji, (10) Akheranji (11) Surajmalji I., (12) Limbji, (13) Jagrup Sinh, (14) Anup Sinh, (15) Umed Sinh, (16) Daulat Sinh, (17) Devi Sinh and.—

(18) Surajmalji II.



Residence.—Kadana, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

KAGAL.

Area.—178 sq. miles. Population.—1,20,482.

Revenue.—2,87,693 rupees.

This estate was received from the Kolhapur Chief by Sakharam Rao in 1800, by means of his influence at the Court of Sindhia. At present there are four share-holders in Kagal *jagir*, whose names are Piraji Rao, Dattaji Rao, Hanmant Rao and Nagoji Rao respectively. A yearly tribute of Rs. 4,826 is paid by this estate to the Kolhapur Darbar, to which it is feudatory. Jaya Sinh Rao Ghatge, the late chief of Kagal estate, was made Regent of the Kolhapur State during the minority of the present Maharaja of Kolhapur, and was honoured with a salute of 9 guns as long as he retained that office. The chiefs of Kagal have not been granted the right of adoption, but succession follows the rule of primogeniture.

Residence.—Kagal, Southern Maratha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

KALI BAORI.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—2,669.

Revenue.—6,000 rupees.

Sir John Malcolm brought about two engagements with the Dhar State for Sawant Sinh, the Bhumia of Kali Baori, in 1821. Thereby he was to receive *Hali* Rs. 1,377 and Rs. 123 as *Zamindari* from the Dharamपुरi *paragna*. He was on the other hand, besides preserving the peace of the *paragna*, to pay to the Kamasdar *Hali* Rs. 501 in perpetuity and to hold six villages. He holds the village of Kherwa in *inam*. For the Bakaner district, he has been receiving Rs. 150 since 1845 from the Gwalior Darbar.

The present Bhumia, Sher Sinh, succeeded his father Tej Sinh as a minor. During his nonage the estate was under British management. In 1890 he came to the age and was placed in independent charge of his estate.

Residence.—Kali Baori, Bhopawar Agency ; Central India.

THE KALINJAR CHAUBES.

The famous fort of Kalinjar was assigned to Hardi Sah in the general partition of the exclusive territories of Chhatra Sal. Chaube

Ram Kishan, as the governor of the fort, was in charge of it; but owing to the incapacity of the sons of Chhatra Sal, he held it on his own account and resisted for ten years. A siege was laid to it by Ali Bahadur, during which operations he, Ali Bahadur, lost his life. At the time of the British occupation of Bundelkhand the fort was in the possession of the Chaube family, Dariyao Sinh, the second son of Ram Kishan—Baldeo, the eldest son, having predeceased him—being its governor.

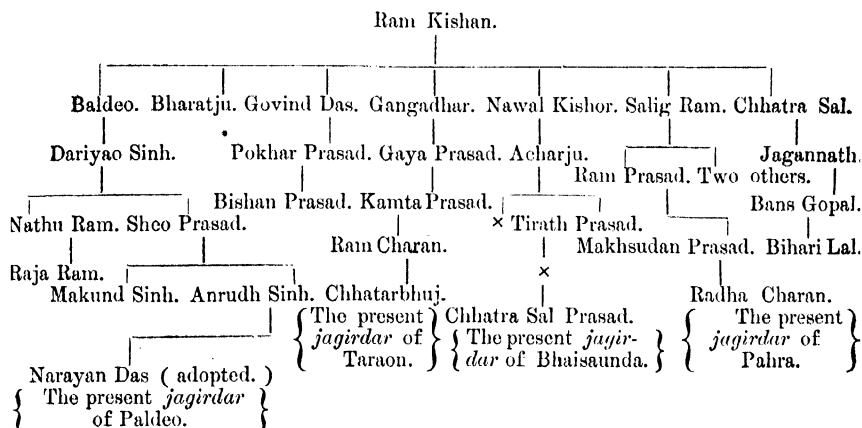
The pacific policy pursued by the British Government led to their recognition and confirmation of their possession of the fort on the same footing with the other Bundelkhand chiefs in 1806, though in point of fact the family was a rebellious vassal of the descendants of Chhatra Sal. The issue of *sanad* was, however, delayed owing to some doubtful claims of the family over villages in possession of the Ajaigarh chief.

Dariyao Sinh was not to be tamed by such a gracious and benevolent policy, and the strength of the fort emboldened him to pursue a course of secret intrigue and instigation against the British rule. It was, therefore, found necessary to take steps to deprive him of the possession of the fort. An attack on the fort failed, but Dariyao Sinh submitted and in exchange of the fort, the family received other lands in 1812. Owing to the family dissension it was found necessary to grant separate *sanads* to individual members. The rule of succession in the family permits of the share being divided among the surviving members of the family upon the death of any sharer without any issue. By virtue of this rule, the possessions of the family were divided into seven shares: of these, one share of Pokhar Prasad *i. e.* Purwa was confiscated in 1855 owing to Bishan Prasad, the son of Pokhar Prasad's complicity in a murder. The share of Chhatra Sal was divided among the surviving sharers, because Nanni Dulahin, the widow of his son, Jagannath, who died in 1843, would adopt one Bans Gopal; he was objected to by other sharers and the Government held it to be more in consonance with Hindu Law that one belonging to the Chaube family and descended from Ram Kishan should be adopted: by this time both Bans Gopal and Nanni died. A deed of adoption in favour of Bihari Lal, a son of Bans Gopal, was treated as of no effect, and the share was divided among the surviving sharers.

At present the Chaube group is represented by four shares *i. e.* Bhaisaunda, Pahra, Paldeo, and Taraon, held by the descendants of Ram Kishan and one share *i. e.* Kamta Rajaula by the descendants of Gopal Lal, the *Vakil* of the family.

To show the mutual kinship of the surviving *jagirdars* of the Chaube family, a genealogical tree is appended; and then the account of each *jagir* is separately described below.

Genealogical tree.



Bhaisaunda.—Nawal Kishor received this estate as his share. Acharju, his son, succeeded him. After the death of Acharju, Tirath Prasad, the second son of Acharju, inherited the estate. He expired on the 10th October 1885, and Chaube Chhatra Sal Prasad, the present *jagirdar* aged 8 years, being his grand-son, succeeded him as a minor. The estate is taken under British management owing to the minority of the *jagirdar*. The *jagirdar* is studying at the Rajkumar College, Nowgong. The residence of the *jagirdar* is at Bhaisaunda.

This estate covers an area of 12 sq. miles with a population of 4,764 souls. The revenue is estimated at Rs. 11,000.

Pahra.—This portion of the estate was received as his share by Salig Ram. He wished to divide his share among his three sons in his lifetime, but the British Government insisted on the preservation of the impartible character of the *jagir* despite the wishes of Salig Ram. He expired in 1843, and his successor Ram Prasad in 1855. He was succeeded by Makhsudan Prasad who was adopted from Taraon. He breathed his last in 1868. In the same year the present *jagirdar* Chaube Radha Charan, came in possession of the *jagir*.

It is ruled that the *jagirdars* have life-interest only in the revenues of the *jagir*, beyond which they cannot alienate. The present *jagirdar*

handed over land for the present Indian Midland Railway and received compensation for it. The civil and criminal powers over the above-mentioned land was ceded to the Paramount Power in 1888. The *jagirdar* resides at Pahra.

This estate has an area of 10 sq. miles with a population of 4,147 souls. The revenue is estimated at Rs. 13,000.

Paldeo.—This portion fell to the share of Dariyao Sinh. He died leaving behind him two sons, Nathu Ram and Sheo Prasad, of whom the eldest succeeded him. Nathu Ram expired in 1840 without any issue, and the estate devolved upon his son Raja Ram. He expired in October 1842, and was succeeded by his uncle Sheo Prasad. He died in 1865 leaving behind him two sons, Makund Sinh and Anrudh Sinh, of whom Makund Sinh succeeded his father. He died in 1874 without any heir, and the estate was inherited by his brother, Anrudh Sinh. At the Delhi Imperial Assemblage Anrudh Sinh received the title of Rao as a personal distinction.

Certain arrangements which previously were in force, of granting land in maintenance to the female members of the family were altered in favour of cash allowances in 1883.

Anrudh Sinh died in the month of August 1891 and was succeeded by Narayan Das, who was 55 years of age and was adopted. His succession was recognised by the Paramount Power, taking $\frac{1}{4}$ of the one year's net revenue as the succession *nazarana*. The *jagirdar* resides at Paldeo.

This estate has an area of 28 sq. miles with a population of 9,351 souls. The annual revenue is estimated at Rs. 20,000.

Taraon.—Gaya Prasad received this portion as his share of the inheritance. On his death in 1840, it passed to his son Kamta Prasad and in 1856 to his son Ram Charan. He expired in 1872 and the estate devolved upon his son Chhatarbhuji, the present *jagirdar*. The *jagirdar* resides at Taraon.

This estate has an area of 12 sq. miles with a population of 3,403. The annual revenue is estimated at Rs. 11,000.

Kamta Rajaula.—This share of the Chaube family estate was assigned to the *Vakil* of the family, Gopal Lal, to prevent any one member arrogating to himself more than his due of the power and the possessions. He breathed his last in 1873, and the share descended to his son Rao Bharat Prasad. When he died in 1891, the succession of his son Ram Prasad, Hindu Kayastha by caste, was sanctioned by the Supreme Government in the month of March 1892.

Ram Prasad has been granted a *sanad* of adoption. The town of Kamta is a place of pilgrimage of Hindus. It is said that Ram, **King of Ayodhya**, stayed here for a while when he was sent into exile by his father, Dashrath.

This estate covers an area of 4 sq. miles with a population of 1,590 souls. The revenue is estimated at 3,000 rupees a year.

Genealogical tree.

Gopal Lal.

Bharat Prashad.

Ram Prashad.

(The present *jagirdar*.)

Residence.—Kamta, Bundelkhand; Central India.

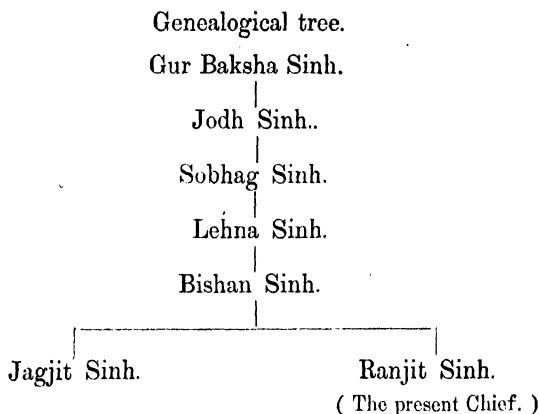
KALSIA.

Area.—149 sq. miles. Population.—68,633.

Revenue.— 1,93,708 rupees.

This State was founded by Gur Baksha Sinh. He was succeeded by his son Jodh Sinh, who very reluctantly followed the example of other states in seeking British protection against Ranjit Sinh, the Lion of the Punjab. His successor Sobhag Sinh died in 1858. His son Lehna Sinh who succeeded him died eleven years after in 1869. His son Bishan Sinh was a minor at the time and the State was managed by the British Government first by means of a Council and afterwards through a Nazim appointed by the Commissioner of Umballa. He was entrusted with full powers in 1874. He died in 1883 leaving two sons, both minors. The elder Jagjit Sinh who succeeded him survived but three years, and the younger

Ranjit Sinh is the present Sardar of the State. He is a minor and consequently the State is managed by a Council of Regency under the control of the Commissioner of Delhi.



Residence.—Kalsia, Cis-Sutlej States, Punjab ; Northern India.

KALUKHERA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—1,078.

Revenue.—7,000 rupees.

The Thakores are Khichi Rajputs of the Raghugarh family coming from Jodhpur.

Rao Umed Sinh, the present Thakore, succeeded, in 1843, his uncle Rao Ratan Sinh with whom the original settlement was effected. He receives *tankhas* to the amount of Rs. 3,261 from Sindhia and Holkar. He also holds the villages of Kalukhera, Borkhera, Barkheri and Barot under Gwalior Darbar for a yearly payment of Rs. 825 to Balwant Rao Patankar, the son-in-law of Daulat Rao Sindhia.

Residence.—Kalukhera, Western Malwa Agency ; Central India.

KAMADHIA.

Area.—4 sq. miles. Population.—772.

Revenue.—6,500 rupees.

This *Taluka* comprising but one village was received by Mir Sarfraz Ali, a powerful Amir of Baroda, from Jam Ranmalji of Nawanager in 1817.

Bakar Ali, his descendant, is the present Talukdar. No tribute is paid by him to any higher authority. He has one independent tribute-payer. The Talukdar is allowed neither civil nor criminal powers. Kamadhia is 9 miles distant from the Vavdi station on the Dhoraji Branch of the Bhavnagar Gondal State Railway. The Talukdar is residing at Bombay.

KAMALPUR.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—756.

Revenue.—10,000 rupees.

Udaji was the Thakore of Kamalpur when in 1818 engagements were brought about for the receipt of the *tankhas* of Rs. 4,600 from Sindhia under British guarantee; he held a village in Sujawalpur from Sindhia on a quit-rent of Rs. 700 subsequently in 1884 enhanced to Rs. 1,750 per annum.

Jujhar Sinh succeeded him. On his death in 1828 the adoption of Moti Sinh by his widow was recognized by the Political Agent of Bhopal.

Moti Sinh expired in 1881, and the succession of his adopted son Madan Sinh, the present Thakore, is sanctioned by the Government.

Residence.—Kamalpur, Bhopal Agency; Central India.

KAMALPUR.

Area.—4 sq. miles. Population.—737.

Revenue.—2,700 rupees.

Bane Sinh and Hari Sinh, Jhala Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 776 is paid by them to the British Government. They have 2 independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them. Kamalpur is 17 miles distant from the Limbdi Railway Station.

Residence.—Kamalpur, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

KAMSOLI.

Area.—3 sq. miles. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—4,986 rupees.

The founder of this *Taluka* came over from Champaner, and

established himself here. His name is not yet known. Formerly they belonged to the Gori Rajput caste, but after the fall of the kingdom of Champaner in 1484, they were perverted to Islamism. Rasul Khan, Mota Bawa, and Thakrani Phulba, by caste Molesalam Girasia, are the present Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 333 is paid to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda by them. This estate has been under British management owing to the disputes among the share-holders. Rasul Khan, Mota Bawa and Phulba reside at Kamsoli Nani, Jiral and Kamsoli Moti respectively. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them.

KANER.

Area.—2 sq. miles. Population.—249.

Revenue.—2,500 rupees.

Vasta, Kathi of the Vala clan by caste, is the present Talukdar. A tribute of Rs. 195 is paid by him to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by him. Kaner is 3 miles distant from Lakhapadar.

Residence.—Kaner, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

KANJARDA.

Area.—98 sq. miles. Population.—297.

Revenue.—2,500 rupees.

Khodoji, Sarvaiya Rajput by caste, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 128 to the Baroda Darbar through the Political Agent of Kathiawad. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. No civil and criminal powers are granted to him. Kanjarda is 8 miles distant from Palitana.

Residence.—Kanjarda, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

KANKER.

Area.—1,429 sq. miles. Population.—82,397.

Revenue.—65,788 rupees.

The Marathas originally held this principality on condition of furnishing, free of charge, a contingent of 500 men, for the military service of

the Central Government whenever called upon to do so. In 1809 Kanker was wrested from the hands of the then reigning Chief, but nine years later (1818), it was restored to the rightful person on his agreeing to pay a yearly tribute of Rs. 500 only, under the authority of the British Political Agent stationed at Nagpur. In 1823, this tribute was remitted on account of the resumption by Government of the *Sayar* (custom) duties, formerly levied and collected by the Chief. This estate thus enjoys the proud distinction of a total exemption from the payment of any tribute to the Supreme Power.

The present Chief, Narhar Deo, succeeded to the *gadi* in 1853. Born in 1850, he was an infant aged only three years when he inherited the paternal estate. In 1865, a deed of adoption was granted to Narhar Deo, who subsequently passed an acknowledgment of fealty to the British *Raj*. In 1889, he shewed certain signs of mental derangement brought on by domestic grief. The Supreme Government then thought it proper in the interest of the State to appoint a competent Diwan to properly look after the affairs of the State. After giving a fair trial to this arrangement for a period of three years, it was decided to take the entire burden off the shoulders of the helpless Raja, and entrust the entire management of the State, to a British Superintendent acting under the immediate control of the Political Agent, until the Raja should shew sufficient signs of improvement and should gather strength enough to personally administer his affairs.

Residence.—Kanker, Central Provinces; Southern India.

KANKREJ.

Area.—520 sq. miles. Population.—45,164.

Revenue.—34,000 rupees.

Kankrej is bounded on the north by Palanpur and Deodar States; on the south by Radhanpur; on the east by the territory of H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda; and on the west by the Terwada and Deodar States.

The petty State of Kankrej though large in extent is divided into 26 petty *jagirs*. The ancestors of these *jagirdars* were originally Rajputs, but subsequently marrying Koli brides they have been lowered to the position of Kolis. Though they now intermarry with the Kolis, they have retained their old tribal names such as Vaghela, Solanki, Chauhan and

Parmar. The principal share-holder in the Taluka is the *jagirdar* of Thara, who is a Vaghela Koli. His ancestors were the kinsmen of the holder of Tharad, both claiming descent from the Vaghela Rajputs of the Sarilhara Branch. The *jagirdar* of Thara has unfortunately no historical antecedents to boast of.

While Sultan Ahmud Shah I. was reigning at Ahmedabad from 1414 to 1441, a Mussalman army marched against the Solanki chief of Kalrigarh. This Kalri is situated on the southern limits of the Kankrej Taluka, three miles to the north of the famous shrine of the Bechraji. A bloody battle was fought at Kalri resulting in the capture of the fortress by the Mahomedan invaders and the death of the brave Solanki chiefs Tejmalji, Sarangji, and Vajroji. The Mahomedan troops, too, lost 1,300 men and 17 elephants. The descendants of these Solanki chiefs afterwards settled themselves in different parts of the country. Some of them went to Khemat under Palanpur, some to Bansda, some to Sagwada and some to Rupavatinagri and such other places.

Of the three chiefs, Jetmalji, Sarangji, and Vajroji, who slept an eternal sleep on the field of Kalri, Anopkunwar, the wife of the last named Vajroji, was the daughter of Divda Rajput of Sirohi. She was, at the time of her husband's death, in the family way, and inspired with the hope of giving birth to a son, who would one day avenge his father's death, she went over to a village named Ugarthali in the midst of a dense forest accompanied by the Diwan, Sukhda Virchand, and the family priest named Dudo, with a retinue consisting of only 125 attendants. The existing name of the village was changed to Dudosan after the name of the priest. Anopkunwar there gave birth to a son, who was named Venidas. When he grew up to a man he collected a small army consisting of 300 horse, and gave it the name of 'Mohologi'. With these he began to plunder the adjoining villages, and laid waste vast tracts of fertile land. When so many as 42 villages were rendered completely desolate, the head-men of other villages, fearing a similar fate, went to the presence of Sultan Ahmud Shah of Gujarat with lighted braziers upon their heads, and sought the protection of the Moslem ruler. Ahmud Shah readily despatched a large army against Dudosan. The out-laws were overcome with fear when they learnt of the strength of the approaching army. Sukhda Virchand and Dudo first went to the Mahomedan General with their hands tied as a mark of submission. They were ordered to surrender Venidas

who also submitted to the Imperial troops. The insurgent chief was conveyed to the presence of the Shah at Ahmedabad, who by way of punishment compelled him to marry Ratankunwar, the daughter of the Koli chief of Terwada and embrace the faith of the Kolis. The Sultan of Gujarat bestowed upon him 12 villages, which are to this day enjoyed by his descendants. Venidas had, by his wife, Ratankunwar, three sons, Vajroji, Jesoji and Nanoji, of whom the eldest Vajroji remained at Dudosan, Jesoji went to Khambhoi, whose descendants acquired the name of ' Khambhoya,' while the last Nanoji took up service under Ahmud Shah. He proved himself to be of great use to the monarch in restoring order and peace in the districts of Chunwal and Kankrej in consideration whereof the Shah conferred upon him the *jagir* of Arniwada with 12 other villages. His descendants came to be known as Arnivadias. Jesoji had three sons, Bhibhoji, Khimoji and Khadalji, of whom the former two carried on plunders in Chunwal and were finally taken prisoners by the Sultan's troops. Bhibhoji had a son Sundarji while Khimoji had three sons, Udoji, Bharmalji and Karanji. Udoji left his paternal estate of Khambhoi and founded Urduwada. Sundarji, the son of Bhibhoji, had likewise three sons, Bharmoji, Napuji and Mepaji. The descendants of Napuji and Mepaji are to this day known by the names of ' Vasmanis ' and ' Khokhanis ' respectively.

Of the 26 share-holders of this Taluka the chief is the Thakore of Thara, who enjoys criminal jurisdiction of passing sentence of imprisonment with hard labour upto one month, and fine upto rupees 50. In civil cases, he is empowered to hear and decide suits to the value of Rs. 250. In the village of Thara the only buildings of note are the Darbar of the Thakore, and a vernacular school.

Kankrej is the principal station of this Taluka. A *thandar* is kept here under the control of the Political Superintendent, who administers justice and keeps order in the Taluka.

KANKSIALI.

Area.—75 sq. miles. Population.—236.

Revenue.—1,200 rupees.

Bhupat Sinh and Naranji, Jadeja Rajput by caste, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 84 to the British Government and

Rs. 27 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have 2 independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are granted to them. Kanksiali is 8 miles to the south of the Rajkot Railway Station.

Residence.—Kanksiali, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

KANORA.

Area.— $3\frac{1}{2}$ sq. miles. Population.—

Revenue.—2,979 rupees.

Keshar Sinh, Dip Sinh, Naranbhai, and Shiv Sinh, Bariya by caste, are the present share-holders of this Taluka. A tribute of Rs. 1601 is paid by them to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda through the Political Agent of the Rewa Kantha Agency. They have no civil and criminal powers.

Residence.—Kanora, Rewa Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

KANPUR-ISHWARIA.

Area.—3 sq. miles. Population.—1,369.

Revenue.—5,000 rupees.

Chamraj, Matra, Surag and Jasa, Kathis of the Vala clan by caste, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 230 to the British Government and Rs. 117 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. Kanpur is the residence of the Talukdars. It is 22 miles distant from the Rajkot Railway Station.

Residence.—Kanpur, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

KANTHARIA.

Area.—14 sq. miles. Population.—2,260.

Revenue.—10,497 rupees.

Phulji, Bajji, Dadaji, Nagbhai and Hari Sinh, Jhala Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 1,491 to

the British Government and Rs. 208 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. No civil and criminal powers are granted to them. Kantharia is 9 miles to the south of the Limbdi Railway Station.

Residence.—Kantharia, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

KAPSI.

Area.—15 sq. miles. Population.—875.

Revenue.—4,000 rupees.

Santaji Rao Ghorpade, by caste a Maratha, is the present Chief of Kapsi. He pays a tribute of Rs. 800 to H. H. the Maharaja of Kolhapur. Kapsi is one of the feudatory States of Kolhapur.

Residence.—Kapsi, Southern Maratha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

KARAUDIA.

By a settlement effected with Jalam Sinh and Hathi Sinh through the mediation of Major Henley, a fixed annual allowance of Rs. 3,361* was guaranteed to the chiefs on their agreeing to abstain from levying any dues from the adjacent villages and carrying on plunders or committing any other crimes.

Umed Sinh, the son of Jalam Sinh, died on 26th October 1880, and was succeeded by his nephew and adopted son Chain Sinh who is the present recipient of the allowances originally guaranteed to Jalam Sinh. The share of Hathi Sinh is now enjoyed by his son and successor Devi Sinh of Arnia. The ordinary practice is that when the payment of each instalment of the cash allowance becomes due, the Vakils of these Thakores are furnished by the Agent to the Governor-General with *Parwanas* (written orders) addressed to the officials of Sindhia and Bhopal which entitle them to realize the sums falling due from each of the States. For this purpose the Thakores are required to permanently employ their agents (Vakils) at the court of the Agent to the Governor-General at Indore.

* Out of this amount Sindhia was to pay Rs. 700,2,100 and 160 while Rs. 401 were to be paid from Bhopal (See Malcolm's 'Malwa', No. 19 of Schedule No. II.)

Besides the fixed yearly allowance mentioned above, these Thakores hold several villages under Sindhia, Holkar and Bhopal. In 1838 Jalam Singh and his brother Hathi Singh obtained from Sindhia the village of Kheri-Rajpura. Chain Singh, the grand-son of Jalam Singh, and Khuman Singh, the son of Hathi Singh, conjointly held that village for a few years, when disputes arose between them for its sole and independent possession. The Agent to the Governor General finally ordered that Khuman Singh should, during his life-time, undertake the entire management of the village on condition of paying to Chain Singh every year a sum of Rs. 350 in consideration of his share in the village. It was also settled that after the demise of either Khuman Singh or Chain Singh, a fresh arrangement was to be made regarding the disposal of the property. During the life-time of Khuman Singh, he was made responsible for the payment of all dues in connection with that village. Chain Singh holds the village of Karaudia under Maharaja Holkar.

Sindhia granted to Jalam Singh and Bhim Singh the villages of Jamgod and Kheria on their agreeing to pay annually a quit-rent of Rs. 400. Chain Singh now holds Kheria, while the village of Jamgod is now in the possession of Raghunath Singh, grandson of Bhim Singh, who succeeded to the estate after the death of his father, Unkar Singh, in May 1884. Chhatra Singh, another brother of Jalam Singh, obtained from Sindhia, the village of Razapur on quit-rent. Similarly his other brother Tej Singh obtained from the same chief, 1,000 *bighas* of land in Koel Kheri, a village under Ujjain.

Residence.—Karaudia, Indore Agency ; Central India.

KARIANA.

Area.—10 sq. miles. * Population.—3,156.

Revenue.—21,000 rupees.

Odha, Desa, Dewa, Bhan, Dewait, Jutha and Mulu, Kathis of the Khachar clan by caste, are the present share-holders of this Taluka. A tribute of Rs. 850 is paid by them to the British Government and of Rs. 107 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. They have 6 independent tribute-payers. Out of the above-named seven share-holders, Bhan enjoys civil and criminal powers as the chiefs of Kathia-

wad of the sixth class, and Dewait and Mulu are placed among the seventh class chiefs. Kariana is 12 miles to the north of the Lathi Railway Station.

Residence.—Kariana, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

KARMAD.

Area.—3 sq. miles. Population.—648.

Revenue.—5,117 rupees.

Dadubha, Jhala Rajput by caste, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 140 to the British Government and Rs. 42 to the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. He has no civil and criminal powers. Karmad is 6 miles to the south-east of the Chuda Railway Station.

Residence.—Karmad, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

KAROL.

Area.—11 sq. miles. Population.—1,325.

Revenue.—6,185 rupees.

Dhir Sinh and Amar Sinh, Jhala Rajput by caste, are the present Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 703 is paid by them to the British Government and of Rs. 93 to the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. They have 2 independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are granted to them. Karol is 5 miles to the east of the Chuda Railway Station.

Residence.—Karol, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

KAROLI.

Area.—11 $\frac{3}{4}$ sq. miles. Population.—1,688.

Revenue —3,182 rupees.

Bhawani Sinhji, Makwana Koli by caste, is the present Thakore. He pays a tribute of Rs. 513-0-10 to the Gaekwad of Baroda and Rs. 93-1-10 to H. H. the Maharaja of Idar as *Khichadi Hakka*. The Thakore is en-

listed in the sixth class among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha; so he tries criminal cases and inflicts rigorous imprisonment for three months and fine upto Rs. 100. In civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose of suits to the amount of Rs. 500.

Residence.—Karoli, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

KASALPURA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—450.

Revenue.—3,500 rupees.

Manaji, Makwana Koli by caste, is the present Thakore. A tribute of Rs. 48-6-8 is paid by him to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda. He is a seventh class chief in the Agency of Mahi Kantha, so his criminal powers entitle him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for one month and fine upto Rs. 100, while in civil cases he hears and decides suits to the value of Rs. 25.

Residence.—Kasalpura, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

KASLA PAGI-NU-MUWADU.

Area.—1½ sq. miles. Population.—100.

Revenue.—120 rupees.

Natha, Jehra, Bhathi, and Chhagan, Pagis by caste, are the present share-holders of this Taluka. A tribute of Rs. 65 is paid by them to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda through the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha. No civil and criminal powers are granted to them.

Residence.—Kasla Pagi-nu-muwadu, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

KATHI.

Area.—500 sq. miles. Population.—10,223.

Revenue.—36,000.

Chandra Sinh, by caste Bhil, is the present Talukdar. The State was under British management owing to the nonage of the Chief, but on

coming to age, he was invested with usefull powers. He pays a tribute of Rs. 130 to the British Government. The Chief has not received a *sanad* of adoption, but the succession is governed by the rule of primogeniture.

Residence.—Kathi, Khandesh : Bombay Presidency.

KATHIWARA.

Area.—68 sq. miles. Population.—3,571.

Revenue.—4,000 rupees.

This petty chief-ship is bounded on the north by Ratanmal; on the east and south by Ali Rajpur; and on the west by Chhota Udepur.

Bahadur Sinh, the present Thakore, succeeded his brother Jorawar Sinh in 1865 by the sanction of the India Government. The population chiefly consists of Bhils and Bhilalas.

Residence.—Kathiwara, Bhopawar Agency : Central India.

KATHAUN.

Area.—5 sq. miles. Population.—8,000.

Revenue.—7,000 rupees.

In the year 1825, Bhim Sinh, Prithi Sinh, Ramchandra and Chandra Bhan were granted three villages yielding an annual income of Rs. 4,000 on their furnishing an undertaking that they would render faithful service to Government and protect the high road from plunder and dacoity. This arrangement was carried out through the mediation of the British Resident employed at Sindhia's Court. The fief is now held by Thakore Hargayan Sinh, who was recognised as the rightful successor in 1883 at the age of 18 years.

Residence.—Kathaun, Gwalior Agency : Central India.

KATHROTA.

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—59.

Revenue.—1,000 rupees.

Jiwa, Kathi of the Vala clan by caste, is the present Talukdar. He pays Rs. 52 to the British Government, as a tribute. The Talukdar has

one independent tribute-payer. No civil and criminal powers are granted to him. Kathrota is 15 miles to the west of Lakhapadar.

Residence.—Kathrota, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

KATORIA.

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—309.

Revenue.—2,000 rupees.

Madhav Sinh, Gohel Rajput by caste, is the present Talukdar. A tribute of Rs. 193 is paid by him to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda and of Rs. 28 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. He has one independent tribute-payer. The Talukdar has no civil and criminal powers. Katoria is 6 miles distant from the Sihor Railway Station.

Residence.—Katoria, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

KATOSAN.

Area.—20 sq. miles. Population.—7,426.

Revenue.—21,190 rupees.

Of the three sons of Kesar Makwana, Harpal, the eldest, ascended the *gadi* at Patdi, Vijaya Pal secured for his descendants Ilol, and Santaji, the youngest, forcibly seized Santhal and set himself up there.

During the reign of Mahmud Begada, the Emperor of Gujarat (1459–1513), Khanji, a descendant of Santaji, married the daughter of a Koli chieftain, and lost his social status. He received the estate of Katosan with 54 villages from the Padshah for his gallant services. Naranji, who was thirteenth in descent from him had two sons, Ajbaji and Agraji, who have acquired immortal fame by their singular heroism. On one occasion Ajbaji beat back the Maratha hosts of Raja Shahu of Satara, and succeeded in enforcing his *giras* dues from several villages. At the time of the great famine of 1823 commonly known among the Hindus "*Agnotrokai*" he threw open his stores of food for the benefit of the poor and the suffering. Bards sing his praises in the loftiest strains calling him an earthly Indra.

Karan Sinhji, by caste Makwana Koli, is the present Chief. He is a fourth class Sardar in the Mahi Kantha Agency, so in criminal cases he is empowered to inflict rigorous imprisonment for one year and fine upto Rs. 500. In civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose of suits to the amount of Rs. 2,500. Katosan is a Railway Station on the Mehsana Vadenagar Railway.

Residence.—Katosan, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

KAYATHA.

Captain Barthwick effected a settlement in 1818 by which an annual payment of Rs. 1,427 by the two chiefs of Dewas, was guaranteed to the Thakore of Kayatha. The present incumbent is Thakore Sheodan Singh, son of Darjan Sal.

Residence.—Kayatha, Indore Agency; Central India.

KAWARDHA.

Area.—88 sq. miles. Population.—75,462.

Revenue.—68,000 rupees.

Raghoji Bhonsle of Nagpur conferred on Sham Chand, one of his Sardars, in recognition of his military services the *jagirs* of Pandarya and Kawardha, of which the former has always been held by the senior and the latter by the junior branch of the family. According to a custom prevailing in this family the son by a senior wife, though young in age succeeds to the Pandarya chief-ship, in preference to an elder son born of a junior wife, who inherits the Kawardha *gadi*. In accordance with this custom, Ram Singh, though a younger son, but born of a senior Rani, inherited the *jagir* of Pandarya. In 1863, on the junior branch of Kawardha becoming extinct, Ram Singh's elder brother Bahadur Singh was recognised as the Chief of Kawardha.

In 1865 during his regime a *sanad* of adoption was granted to him. He subsequently passed a document owning fealty to the British *Raj*.

On his death, he was succeeded by Rajpal Singh, the elder son of Ram Singh, by a junior wife, who was born in 1849. In 1884 he was

deprived of his authority by the Government of India, on account of his oppression and maladministration. This removal from power was originally intended to operate for five years only, but even at the expiration of that period he was not reported to have improved and the same arrangement was ordered to be continued for a further period of five years (1889). The estate was placed under the direct management of a Superintendent, who was an officer of the grade of Extra Assistant Commissioner. A Tehesildar was placed under him to assist him in carrying out the details of administration.

Rajpal Singh died in December 1891, and was succeeded by his nephew Kiratpal Singh, who is at present a minor of about six years of age. He belongs to the Raj Gond caste and is fourteenth in descent from the founder of this chiefship.

The tribute originally fixed by the Marathas on this principality amounted to Rs. 2,000 only, but it was subsequently much enhanced by the Bhonsle rulers of Nagpur. The amount now stands at Rs. 32,000 a year.

Residence.—Kawardha, Bilaspur: Central Provinces.

KEONTHAL.

Area.—286 sq. miles. Population.—37,320.

Revenue.—60,000 rupees.

The Chiefs of Keonthal have been freed from the burden of any tribute whatsoever, owing to a portion of their territory being given by the British Government to the Maharaja of Patiala in 1815. In the same year their exercise of supreme authority over several of the petty Hill Chiefs was recognized. They receive about Rs. 7,500 every year.

In 1830 the Government received Simla in exchange of the district of Raingarh which was retained by them (the chiefs) in 1815; but the jurisdiction over the *jagirs* comprised in the district was expressly reserved by the Government.

In 1858 the grand father of the present Chief Balbirsen was granted a *khilat* and the title of 'Raja' for his firm adherence to the British Government during the Mutiny.

The Raja of Keonthal has the paramount power over the petty states of Theog, Kothi, Ghund, Mudhan or Kiari, and Rutesh, the chiefs whereof, are bound to regard the Raja of Keonthal as their liege-lord. The account of these petty states is given below separately.

Theog.—Hari Chand is the present Thakore of Theog, who belongs to the Bilaspur dynasty. The area of this estate is 10 sq. miles with a population of 3,000 souls. The revenue is estimated at Rs. 3,300.

Kothi.—Bishan Chand, the present Rana of Kothi succeeded his father Hari Chand, who received the title of Rana for services rendered by him to the British Government during the troublous times of the great Indian Mutiny. The area of his holding is 36 sq. miles with a population of 2,500 souls. The revenue is estimated at Rs. 6,000.

Ghund.—Kishan Sinh is the present Chief of Ghund. He pays a tribute of Rs. 250 to his liege-lord, the Raja of Keonthal. The area of his estate is 3 sq. miles with a population of 1,000 souls. The revenue is estimated at Rs. 1,000.

Mudhan.—Bishan Chand, the present Thakore belongs to the Bilaspur dynasty. The area of this petty state is 13 sq. miles with a population of 1,000 souls. The revenue is estimated at Rs. 1,600.

Ratesh.—Ram Sinh is the present Thakore, whose ancestors migrated from Sirmur. The area of Ratesh is 9 sq. miles with a population of 437 souls. The revenue is estimated at Rs. 200.

KESARIA.

Area.—3 sq. miles. Population.—231.

Revenue.—1,651 rupees.

Khengarji, Jhala Rajput by caste, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 278 to the British Government. The Talukdar has two independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by him. Kesaria is 3 miles to the north of the Lakhtar Station.

Residence.—Kesaria, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

KEUNJHAR.

Area.—3,096 sq. miles. Population.—2,48,101.

Revenue.—88,165 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by Singbhum District; on the east by Morbhanj State and Balasor District; on the south by Cuttack District and Dhenkanal State; and on the west by Dhenkanal, Pal Lahara, and Bonai States.

The ruling Chiefs are Rajputs and the descendants of Jaya Sinh, the son of Man Sinh of Jaipur in Rajputana. When on a pilgrimage to the shrine of Jagannath Puri, Jaya Sinh married the daughter of Gaj Pati Raj and received the State of Hariharpur in dowry. Two sons Adi Sinh and Joti Sinh were the fruits of the marriage. The bravery of the elder in subjugating a petty *Zamindar* won for the family, the patronym of Bhanj which title was conferred on him by the Puri Prince for his successful conquest. The younger son was assigned a portion by his father outside the fort, whence he removed to a residence on the banks of a spring (*jhara*,) in an ebony forest (*Kendee*). Thus the new quarter received the name of Keunjhar. In the line of Joti Bhanj, flourished a personality—Trilochan Bhanj, who being offended with his father sought service with the Puri Raja and as the commander-in-chief of his forces acquired great distinction in the battle of Kanji-Kavery in Madras. The Raja rewarded him for his victory with the *Zamindari* of Athgarh adjoining to his paternal state, to which he retired on the death of his father. For a time subsequently authority was acquired on the *Zamindari* of Pal Lahara by the Rajas of Keunjhar, but in 1825 the *Zamindari* became independent; though it still pays tribute to chiefs of Keunjhar. The title of Raja is hereditary in the family assumed during the Maratha supremacy in Orissa and the British Government formally conferred it in 1874. The title of Maharaja was conferred on the present Chief Dhanurjai Narayan Bhanj Deo, who succeeded to the *gadi* in 1881, as a personal distinction on the Proclamation of Her Gracious Majesty as the Empress of India. The Chief of this State pays a tribute of Rs. 1,710-1-3.

Residence.—Keunjhar, Orrisa Tributary Mahals; Bengal.

KHADAL.

Area.—10 sq. miles. Population.—3,070.

Revenue.—20,353 rupees.

The history of Khadal is almost the same as that of Punadra. The

ancestors of the Chief of Khadal claim to be Makwana Rajputs. One Hari Sinhji in that line married a girl of the Koli tribe and afterwards serving Mahmud Begada of Gujarat obtained the *jagir* of Mandwa. He soon after embraced Islamism and became a Mahomedan. Jamal Miyan, the son of Hari Sinhji, had two sons, Amiji and Pira Miyan. Amiji inherited Mandwa, while Pira Miyan obtained the *jagir* of Atarsumba and 22 other villages. Haji Miyan, the son of Pira Miyan, had two sons, Abherajji and Vaje Sinhji. Abherajji of course inherited Atarsumba, whose descendants are still ruling at Punadra, while the younger brother Vaje Sinhji obtained in appanage the *Taluka* of Khadal. The present Miyan Sardar Sinhji of Khadal is ninth in descent from this Vaje Sinhji.

Like his cousins of Punadra the religious creed of Sardar Sinhji is a mixture of Hinduism and Islamism. He is ranked among the fourth class chiefs in the Mahi Kantha Agency; therefore, he is empowered to try criminal cases, and inflict punishment of rigorous imprisonment upto one year, and of fine upto Rs. 500. In civil cases he hears and decides suits to the amount of Rs. 2,500.

Residence.—Khadal, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

KHAIRAGARH.

Area.—940 sq. miles. Population.—30,392.

Revenue.—122,590 rupees.

The Chief of Khairagarh claims his descent from the ancient and well-known Gond family of Mandla. The Marathas during the height of their glory had levied upon this principality an yearly tribute of Rs. 1,500 (Nagpur coinage). This amount though occasionally realized by the Bhonsle chief, had greatly fallen into arrears and when the British Government assumed charge of the Nagpur State in 1854 the total amount of tribute then remaining due was nearly Rs. 39,000.

In 1865 a *sanad* of adoption was granted to the Chief, who in return passed an acknowledgment of fealty to the Paramount Power.

In 1867 this tribute was revised and fixed at Rs. 47,000 a year, to be paid to the British Government for a period of 20 years. At the present day this amount stands, at Rs. 70,000.

In 1870, the ruling Chief Lal Fattah Singh was deprived of civil and criminal jurisdictions owing to the ever increasing complaints raised by his subjects against his maladministration. Even after that, the Chief shewed no signs of improvement but went on incurring heavy debts and harassing the inoffensive ryots. The Supreme Government at last took charge of the state treasury and in 1873 assumed charge of the whole administration. During the period of their management Lal Fattah Singh died in 1874, leaving behind him a son named Lal Umrao Singh. The estate was, however, not restored to him till 1883, when he was installed on the *gadi*.

He died in 1890 and was succeeded by his son Kamal Naryan Singh who was born in 1869. It was in February 1891, that his accession obtained the formal recognition of the Government of India.

On 21st August 1883 Lal Umrao Singh, by a document, ceded to the Supreme Government certain lands within his territory with civil and criminal jurisdictions thereon which were required for the Nagpur and Chhattisgarh State Railway. Similarly he passed two other documents in March and September 1890, by which he ceded certain lands for the Bengal Nagpur Railway.

Residence.—Khairagarh, Raipur: Central Provinces.

KHAMBHALA.

Area.—6 sq. miles. Population.—890.

Revenue.—21,000 rupees.

Rukhad, Oghad and Bhoj, Kathis of the Khachar sept, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 406-8-0 to the British Government and Rs. 118 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have three independent tribute-payers. Out of these three share-holders, Rukhad, the principal, is enlisted among the sixth class chiefs in Kathiawad; so his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for two years and fine upto Rs. 2,000, while in civil matters he hears and decides suits to the amount of Rs. 5,000. Khambhala is 18 miles to the north of the Lathi Railway Station.

Residence.—Khambhala, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

KHAMBHLAO.

Area.—10 sq. miles. Population.—1,643.

Revenue.—4,579 rupees.

Prabhat Sinhji, Kakaji, and Nahar Sinhji, Jhala Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 730 is paid by them to the British Government and another of Rs. 139 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh, as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have three independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are granted to them. Khambhlao is 9 miles to the east of the Limbdi Railway Station.

Residence.—Khambhlao, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

KHANDIA.

Area.—5 sq. miles. Population.—785.

Revenue.—2,945 rupees.

Bhagwan Sinh and Haribhai, Jhala Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 806 is paid by them to the British Government, while another of Rs. 81 to the Nawab of Junagarh, as *Zortalbi Hakka*. They have also to pay Rs. 13-4-2 as *Sukhadi Hakka* on account of Ahmedabad. They have two independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them. Khandia is 8 miles to the south-east of the Limbdi Railway Station.

Residence.—Khandia, Khathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

KHANDPARA.

Area.—244 sq. miles. Population.—63,287.

Revenue.—25,528 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the river Mahanadi; on the east, by Banki and Puri Districts; on the south, by Puri and Nayagarh; and on the west, by Daspalla.

The Rajas of Khandpara belong to a Rajput family, representing the junior branch of the Nayagarh house. Raja Raghunath Sinh had two sons, the younger of whom, Jadu Nath Sinh, got the forts of Kadua, Ghuntsahai, Sardhapur, and Khedpada as his share. He also conquered the territory of

several petty chieftains. His son, grand son and great grand son were powerful chiefs, who extended their dominions by conquering their neighbours and increased the prosperity of the State by bringing under cultivation such waste tracts of land as remained hitherto untilled. Banmali Sinh was a true scion of his House, and he actively interfered with the affairs of the Bod State. The Raja of Bod wanted to set aside the claims of Makund Deo Bhanj, his adopted son, in favour of another person, whom he had subsequently adopted. Banmali Sinh Mangraj espoused the cause of the former and succeeded in carving out from the parent State a small principality, which he named Daspalla for his protege. Till the time of this illustrious chief, the family title was Mangraj, but he acquired from the Raja of Orissa the title of Bhai Mardraj Bhamarbar Rai for his successful defence of the Orissa *Raj* against the attacks of the enemies; and that title is still borne by his successors on the *gadi* of Khandpara. The Bhonsle chiefs of Nagpur gave to the Raja Niladri Sinh, a flag which is still used on occasions of State. The British Government presented Raja Narsinh Sinh with an elephant and a canon for his services in the operations against Orissa. The present Raja, Natarbar Sinh, succeeded his brother, who died without any issue in 1867. The title of Raja which was formally conferred by the British Government in 1884 is hereditary. A tribute of Rs. 4,211-8-8 is paid by the Raja to the Paramount Power.

Residence.—Khandpara, Orissa Tributary Mahals; Bengal.

KHANIADHANA.

Area.—84 sq. miles. Population.—14,871.

Revenue 22,000 rupees.

This estate originally formed part of Urcha from which it was separated during the time of Udit Sinh, who conferred it as an appanage on his younger brother, Amresh, about the year 1703. When the Marathas conquered and overran the territories of Urcha, the Peshwa, in 1751, granted to Amresh Aharwali a *sanad* for the enjoyment of this estate. When peace was finally restored in the province of Bundelkhand, the rights of sovereignty over the petty estate of Khaniadhana were claimed by the chiefs of Jhansi and Urcha. The same contest was carried on by the British Government after the lapse of Jhansi, when at last in 1862

it was decided that the *jagir* of Khaniadhana was directly subordinate to the British Government on the grounds that it formed part of the Maratha conquests in Bundelkhand and had been granted to Amresh by the Peshwa, whose rights were acquired by the British Government in 1817, and that the Urcha government had exercised no sovereign rights over the estate for more than half a century. In accordance with this decision, it was considered expedient to obtain from the Chief a written recognition of their suzerain powers and the Government, before granting the Chief, the *sanad* of adoption in 1862, embodied the terms of the new arrangement into a deed of allegiance which was ratified by Guman Sinh, who succeeded his father in June 1863. After Guman Sinh's death in 1869 the estate was inherited by his son, Chhatra Sinh, when he was only seven years old. During his nonage the *jagir* was managed by Guman Sinh's widow with the assistance of the old officials of the State. Chhatra Sinh attained majority and was invested with full powers in 1885. According to the terms of the *sanad* of succession, the British Government is declared entitled to a *nazarana* (succession duty) amounting to a quarter of the net annual income of the estate on occasions of direct succession, while on succession by adoption the Government is authorized to levy a *nazarana* to the extent of half the net annual revenues of the estate. Chhatra Sinh was honoured at the Imperial Assemblage held at Delhi on 1st January 1877 with the personal title of 'Raja.' In 1888 this estate was transferred from the control of the Political Agent to that of the British Resident at the Court of Gwalior. Chhatra Sinh ceded in October 1888 full jurisdiction over the land taken up by the Jhansi-Bhopal section of the Indian Midland Railway. As a special case the Supreme Government decided to grant the Chief a compensation amounting to Rs. 353-10-9 for the lands acquired from him for such a public purpose. Chhatra Sinh has received liberal education at the Indore Residency Rajkumar College.

Residence.—Khaniadhana, Gwalior Agency ; Central India.

KHARSAWAN.

Area.—145 sq. miles. Population.—35,470

Revenue.—18,000 rupees.

Mahendra Narayan Sinh Deo, the present Thakore, succeeded his father in 1884. He belongs to a Rajput Porhat family, which migrated to

Orissa from Jodhpur in Rajputana. The title of Thakore is conferred on the Chief as a personal distinction.

Residence.—Kharsawan, Chhota Nagpur; Bengal.

KHARSIA.

Under an engagement mediated in 1818, the Thakore receives a *tankha* of Rs. 750 (*Hali* Coinage) from Sindhia and an allowance of Rs. 225 from the Senior Dewas Chief.

Balwant Sinh succeeded in 1876 and Hati Sinh of Jhalera in 1884.

Residence.—Kharsia, Bhopal Agency; Central India.

KHEDAWADA.

Area.—27 sq. miles. Population.—2,162.

Revenue.—4,199 rupees.

Vaje Sinh, Makwana Koli by caste, is the present Thakore. He pays a tribute of Rs. 302-9-10 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and Rs. 93-1-10 to H. H. the Maharaja of Idar as *Khichadi Hakka*. The Thakore is enlisted in the sixth class among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha so his criminal powers empower him to inflict punishment for three months with hard labour and fine upto Rs. 100, while in civil cases he is competent to hear and dispose of suits to the amount of Rs. 500.

Residence.—Khedawada, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

KHERALI.

Area.—11 sq. miles. Population.—1,658.

Revenue.—1,061 rupees.

This Taluka was received in *giras* in 1739 by Ramobhai, the fourth son of Arjun Sinhji, the Thakore of Wadhwan. Gagubha, Harbhamji and Haribhai, his descendants, who are Jhala Rajputs by caste, are the present share-holders. A tribute of Rs. 678 is paid by them to the British Government. The Talukdars have three independent tribute-payers. They are

not entitled to enjoy any civil and criminal powers. Kherali is $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the south of the Wadhwan Railway Station.

Residence.—Kherali, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

KHIJADIA.

Area.—2 sq. miles. Population.—265.

Revenue.—2,400 rupees.

Ali Miyan, a Mussalman by caste, known by the appellation of Saiyad, is the present Talukdar. No tribute is paid by him to any higher Government. He has one independent tribute-payer. He is not empowered to try civil and criminal cases. Khijadia is 14 miles distant from Babra.

Residence.—Khijadia, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

KHIJADIA-DOSAJI.

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—995.

Revenue.—2,400 rupees.

Devi Sinh and Raya Sinh, Gohel Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 380 is paid by them to the Baroda Darbar and another of Rs. 47 to the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have one independent tribute-payer. No civil and criminal powers are granted to them. Khijadia-Dosaji is 5 miles to the north-west of Dhola Junction.

Residence.—Khijadia-Dosaji, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

KHIJADIA-NAYANI.

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—85.

Revenue.—1,000 rupees.

Bhoj, a Kathi of the Vala clan, is the presesent Talukdar. He pays Rs. 52 to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda, as an yearly tribute. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. No civil and criminal powers are

granted to him. Khijadia-Nayani is 14 miles distant from the Kunkawav Railway Station.

Residence.—Khijadia-Nayani, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

KHIRSARA.

Area.—13 sq. miles. Population.—4,377.

Revenue.—19,000 rupees.

This petty State was founded by Bhimji. When Sangoji, the eighth ruler of Dhrol, expired without issue, this Bhimji was the rightful heir, but he abdicated the *gadi* in favour of his younger brother, Junoji, and taking 12 villages he established himself at Khirsara. Raya Sinh, his descendant, is the present Thakore. He belongs to the Jadeja tribe. A tribute of Rs. 2,336 is paid by him to the British Government, while he also pays Rs. 350 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. He has two independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are granted to him. Khirsara is 12 miles distant from the Rajkot Railway Station.

Residence.—Khirsara, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

KHOJANKHERA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—500.

Revenue.—6,000 rupees.

The present Thakore Bakhtawar Sinh is the grandson of Daulat Sinh, with whom the Settlement was effected. The terms of that Settlement guaranteed to the Thakore the villages of Khojankhera, Bhadurpura and Arniagajar subject to the payment of an annual rent of Rs. 3,603 to the Jaora Darbar as also the Dami Sayar rights.

Residence.—Khojankhera, Western Malwa Agency ; Central India.

KONDKA (Chuikadan).

Area.—174 sq. miles. Population.—32,979.

Revenue.—22,003 rupees.

This chiefship was originally created in 1750 by Madhoji Bhonsle of Nagpur in favour of one Rupdasji, the head of a religious sect, the tenets of

which allowed its followers to lead a worldly life. The estate is still held by one of the direct descendants of Rupdasji. The name of the present Chief is Shyam Kishordasji, who was born in 1838 and who assumed charge of the estate on the death of his father in December 1887. Long before that Shyam Kishordasji, during the life-time of his father, acted as the chief *de facto*, looking after the administration of the estate. In that capacity he threatened certain mulguzurs (permanent tenants) with eviction from their holdings unless they paid certain heavy penalties, which he had inflicted on them by way of punishment for their having brought to the notice of the authorities certain exactions levied by him from the ryots. Though the tenants paid those fines to avoid the threatened eviction, yet they complained to the Supreme Government of the gross injustice to which they had been subjected. On a careful enquiry it was ascertained that the practice of inflicting unusually heavy fines on the ryots was a matter of everyday occurrence in Kondka, and the Mahant was peremptorily called upon to adequately compensate the people whom he had so unjustly injured. He was also compelled to put a stop to the system of levying *nazarana* from his subjects, and also to guarantee his tenants against unwarrantable evictions in future. He was also advised to appoint as his Diwan an officer of approved ability and merit, who would assist him in introducing several useful reforms and thus remodelling the whole State, the affairs of which had been hopelessly mismanaged for the last several years. A Tehesildar in the British Service was accordingly chosen to fill the post of the Diwan, who was instructed to administer the estate under the direct control and supervision of the Political Agent.

In 1865, a *sanad* of adoption was granted to the then Mahant, who subsequently passed a document acknowledging his fealty to the Paramount Power.

Residence.—Kondka, Central Provinces; Southern India.

KORIA.

Area.—1,625 sq. miles. Population.—36,240.

Revenue.—6,000 rupees.

This estate is bounded on the north by the Rewa State; on the east by Sarguja; on the south by Bilaspur District, and on the west by Chang Bhukar and Rewa.

The State was founded by a Chauhan Rajput, Dhawal Sinh, about 600 years ago. The title of Raja, though hereditary was, formally conferred by the British Government in 1875 on the present Chief, Raja Pran Sinh Deo, who succeeded to the *gadi* in 1864. He pays a tribute of Rs. 400 to the British Government.

Residence.—Koria, Chhota Nagpur ; Bengal.

KOTDA-NAYANI.

Area.—3 sq. miles. Population.—1,256.

Revenue.—6,000 rupees.

Hari Sinhji, Vakhtaji, Mulji and Meghji, Jadeja Rajputs are the present share-holders of this Taluka. They pay a tribute of Rs. 542 to the Gaekwad of Baroda and also of Rs. 145 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have three independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them. Kotda-Nayani is 15 miles to the north of the Rajkot Railway Station.

Residence.—Kotda-Nayani, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

KOTDA-PITHA.

Area.—25 sq. miles. Population.—7,188.

Revenue.—60,000 rupees.

Loma, Dewa, Bhoj, Amra and Harsur, Kathis of the Vala clan, are the present Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 4,850 is paid by them to the British Government and of Rs. 728 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have five independent tribute-payers. They have been enlisted among the 6th class chiefs of Kathiawad and they hold criminal powers, which entitle them to inflict rigorous imprisonment for two years and fine upto Rs. 2,000, while in civil matters they hear and decide suits to the amount of Rs. 5,000. The portion of one of the holders, Dewa, is under British management. Kotda-Pitha is 13 miles to the north of the Chital Railway Station.

Residence.—Kotda-Pitha, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

KOTDA-SANGANĠ.

Area.—37 sq. miles. Population.—8,600.

Revenue.—90,000 rupees.

Sagramji and Sangoji were the two sons of Kumbhoji I., the founder of the Gondal State. The former ascended the paternal throne on the death of his father, the other receiving in appanage the village of Ardoi in 1654-55. He was the founder of the principality, which derived its name of Sangani from him. He extended his sway over the neighbouring villages and raised his estate to the dignity of a Taluka. On one occasion in 1699 he encountered the Kathis at Raiga, three miles from Rajkot, where he lost his life. He had three sons, of whom the eldest, Tejoji, succeeded him to the *gadi*, while Togaji and Hakoji were granted the estates of Rajpura and Bhadwa. Tejoji seems to have been a lover of peace and to have totally abstained from taking part in contemporary turmoils and strifes. In the year 1727 he expired leaving behind him three sons, Jasoji, Sartanji and Devoji, of whom the eldest ascended the *gadi*.

Jasoji was a gallant prince, who extended the limits of his Taluka. Sorath had then become a scene of constant rapine and blood-shed owing to the daring on-slaughts of the Kathis, and the life and property of the people had become unsafe throughout the whole province. While the Mughal viceroy was engaged in preserving peace and order, other chiefs too, great or small, were on their guard against the aggressions of those invaders. Prince Kumbhoji of Gondal and Jasoji entered into an alliance for the defence of Gondal and Kotda. The alacrity of the enemy's movements was simply surprising and their plunders were characterised by unheard of cruelties. Khuman Vaijo Jogio frequently sacked Gondal and Kotda. Once he succeeded in seizing Kotda, but he could not hold it long, for in 1750 it was reconquered by Kumbhoji and Jasoji. It was agreed between them to appoint a *Patel* to collect revenues on their behalf. Spear-in-hand Jasoji would always threaten the *Patel* with expulsion from Gondal and Kotda. As long as the *Patel* stayed there he remained in constant dread of that powerful Rajput. Kumbhoji, who was a silent spectator of all this, did not think it prudent to take up arms against Jasoji, though he secretly resolved to remedy the evil. Once upon a time, a bard while reciting some verses in praise of the gallantry of Sheshamalji of Sayla, was interrupted by Jasoji, who

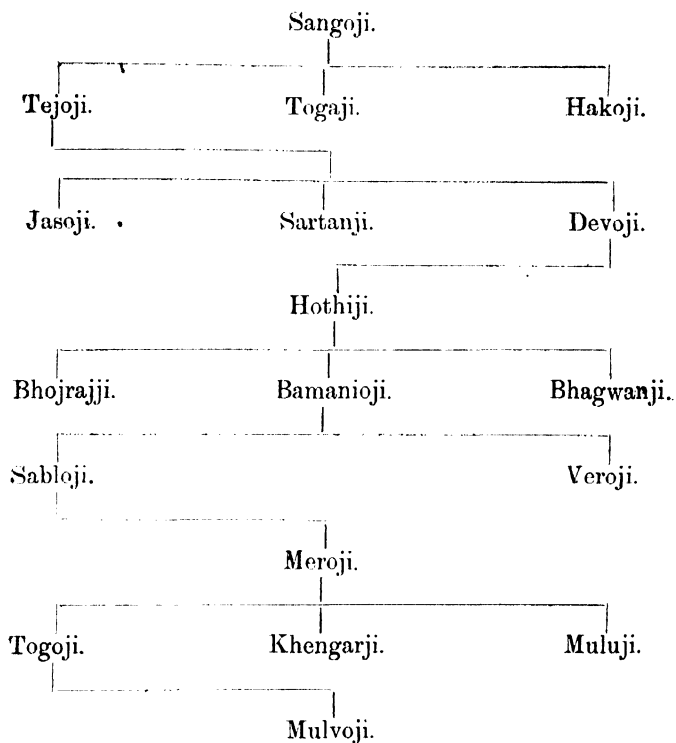
spoke slightly of him. When this incident was mentioned to Kumbhoji he invited Sheshamalji to Gondal and reported to him the exact words which Jasoji had spoken and thus incited him to attack Kotda. At that time the Khumans of Anandpur and Bhimora and the Sanganis were not on friendly terms with each other. Sheshamalji gained them over to his side and led an attack against Jasoji. A fierce battle was fought between them near Rajpipla, eight miles to the east of Kotda, in 1755, in which Jasoji and Sartanji were slain, and Devoji fatally wounded. The cenotaphs erected in memory of Jasoji and Sartanji are still standing at Rajpipla. Devoji returned to Kotda, and was enthroned, but within a few days died of the wounds received on the fatal field.

Hothiji succeeded Devoji and it was during his reign that Colonel Walker first arrived in Kathiawad. It appears from his Report that Hothiji plundered the goods, of a cloth merchant of Dholka, worth about 1,500 Rs. while he was passing through his territory on his way to Kutch. A complaint was regularly lodged against him and though he admitted his guilt he refused to return the property. He was, however, compelled to pay a compensation equivalent in amount to the full price of the stolen property.

The chief of Sardhar resumed possession of the three villages, the revenues of which were assigned to the ancestors of the Kotda Chief in lieu of their services to the Sardhar chiefs during their adversity. Hothiji plundered Sardhar, but was afterwards reconciled with its ruler.

Hothiji after a pretty long rule died in 1812, leaving behind him three sons, Bhojrajji, Bamanioji and Bhagwanji. The eldest succeeded and died childless in 1825; when Bamanioji was placed on the *gadi*. He had two sons, Sabloji and Veroji. He died in 1838; his successor Sabloji died in 1840; and Meroji died in 1862. Meroji left behind him three sons, Togoji, Khengarji and Muluji, of whom, the eldest Togoji succeeded to the *gadi*. He was addicted to drinking and opium eating which prevented him from paying any attention to the management of the State. With the permission of the Supreme Government he was reduced to the position of a fifth class chief. He died in 1879 and was succeeded by his minor son Mulvoji. During the minority of Mulvoji the State was managed by a Kamdar under the supervision of the British Political Agent, but on his attaining the age of majority he was entrusted with sole management on the 7th of April 1895.

Genealogical tree.



(The present Thakore.)

Residence.—Kotda-Sangani, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

KOTHARIA.

Area.—7 sq. miles. Population.—2,366.

Revenue.—11,000 rupees.

This Taluka was granted in *giras* to Dadoji, the fifth son of Meheramanji, the Thakore of Rajkot. Jethiji, his descendant, a Jadeja Rajput by caste, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 948 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. He is a fifth class Chief, and as such tries criminal cases in which he is only empowered to inflict rigorous imprisonment for a period not exceeding two years and fine upto Rs. 2000. In civil matters he is empowered to hear and decide suits to the amount of Rs. 5,000. Kotharia is 5 miles to the south of Rajkot.

Residence.—Kotharia, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

KOTHI.

Area.—90 sq. miles. Population.—22,630.

Revenue.—37,000 rupees.

The ruling chief of this principality is a Baghela Rajput by tribe. One of his ancestors secured these possessions by quickly submitting to the successive invaders of Bundelkhand during those days of general warfare and anarchy. In 1807, though the chiefship was reduced to the subordinate status of a feudatory chiefship under the Rajas of Panna, Rai Lal Duniyapat, the then *Jagirdar*, received a *sanad* from the British Government (1810) making him and his heirs and successors directly subordinate to the British *Raj* alone. On his death, his son, Lal Abdhut, succeeded him. After the death of Lal Abdhut the *gadi* of Kothi devolved on his son Ran Bahadur Sinh. He received a *sanad* of adoption in 1862 and acquired in 1878 the titular distinction of 'Raja Bahadur' for himself and his successors, as a reward for the loyalty, public spirit and benevolence of the ruling family. He expired in 1887 and his eldest son, Bhagwat Bahadur Sinh, the present Chief, succeeded him.

The family has received the right of adoption subject to the payment of a *Nazarana* amounting to a fourth share of a year's net revenue in case of direct succession, and one-half of the annual net revenue in case of succession by adoption.

Residence.—Kothi, Baghelkhand; Central India.

KOTHIDE.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—432.

Revenue.—1,400 rupees.

Moti Sinh, the present Bhumia, is a descendant in the direct male line of Hathi Sinh of Garhi* through his son Jujhar Sinh. The Bhumiat consists at present of six villages (Kothide, Malipura, Ambughati, Jhirnia, Jeniria and Bhaisakho), and is since 1876 under the management of the Political Agent. •

Residence.—Kothide, Bhopawar Agency ; Central India.

KUBA.

Area.—3 sq. miles. Population.—375.

Revenue.—4,000 rupees.

The Talukdars of this petty estate belong to the Nagar Brahman caste, whose ancestor Varjdas Rangildas was a resident of Visavadar. This village was conferred on him by Bahadur Khan, the Nawab of Junagarh, in 1834-35. At present there are two share-holders, Jadav Rai and Varaj Rai. No tribute is paid by them to any higher authority. They have two independent tribute-payers. Of these two *Jagirdars*, Jadav Rai enjoys criminal and civil powers as the other chiefs of Kathiawad, vested with sixth class powers. He is empowered to inflict two years' imprisonment with hard labour and fine upto Rs. 2,000, while in civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose of suits to the amount of Rs. 5,000. Kuba is 8 miles distant from Manekwara.

Residence.—Kuba, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

KUMHARSAIN.

Area.—87 sq. miles. Population.—10,416.

Revenue.—10,000 rupees.

Kirat Sinh migrated from Gaya about 1,000 A. D., and conquering this territory, established an independent principality. His descendant,

* *Vide* Garhi or Bhaisakheri.

Rana Kehar Singh, was formerly a feudatory to the Bashahr Chief, but on the close of the Gurkha war, he received in 1816 a *sanad* conferring on him the status of an independent Chief. The feudal services for which he was liable were commuted into a money-payment of Rs. 1,440. He died in 1839 without issue, but his zealous attachment to the British cause induced the Government to recognise as his successor, Pritam Singh, a member of the collateral branch. This recognition was postponed till 1840, owing to some disturbances in the State. On the occasion of this renewal of the grant the tribute was raised to the sum of Rs. 2,000. Pritam Singh was succeeded by Rana Bhawani Singh, who dying in 1874 was succeeded by Hira Singh, the present Rana.

Residence.—Kumharsain, Punjab; Northern India.

KUNHIAR.

Area.—7 sq. miles. Population.—1,957.

Revenue.—4,000 rupees.

Bhoj Deo, the founder of the State, came from Jammu and established his sway by the prowess of his arms. It was devastated by the Gurkhas before their expulsion by the British Power in 1815. It was confirmed in the possession of the then Rana, Puran Deo, by virtue of a *sanad* granted in the same year. After his death, Kishan Singh succeeded to the *gadi*. He died in 1867 and was succeeded by Tej Singh, the present Thakore, who is a Rajput of the Raghubansi clan. He has a son named Shiv Singh. The Thakore pays a tribute of Rs. 180 to the Paramount Power.

Residence.—Kunhiar, Punjab; Northern India.

KURUNDWAD (Senior Branch).

Area.—174 sq. miles. Population.—43,809.

Revenue.—1,31,450 rupees.

The chief of this State is a Brahmin by caste and a descendant of one Hari Rao, whose son Nil Kanth Rao received the *saranjam* and the title of Raja from the Peshwa. The present Chief representing the Senior Branch of the family is Chintaman Rao, who succeeded to the *gadi*

after the death of his father Raghunath Keshav in 1876. He is a first class Sirdar in the Deccan and pays a tribute of Rs. 9,618-12-0 to the Paramount power.

Residence.—Kurundwad, Southern Maratha Country; Bombay Presidency.

KURUNDWAD (Junior Branch).

Area.—134 sq. miles. Population.—32,528.

Revenue.—1,30,82 rupees.

Ganpat Rao Harihar and Harihar Rao Vinayak are the present Chiefs of Kurundwad (Junior Branch). They are first class Sirdars of the Deccan. Although no separate engagements have been made with these chiefs except the opium and Abkari Agreements, all those entered into with the Senior Branch are considered binding upon them.

Residence.—Kurundwad, Southern Maratha Country; Bombay Presidency.

KURWAI.

Area.—162 sq. miles. Population.—21,575.

Revenue.—50,000 rupees.

Mahmud Dalil Khan, the founder of the State, was an Afghan, a Firoz Khel of the Khaibar district. He was an adventurer wandering about in search of fortune, who allied himself with Dost Mahmud of Bhopal for sharing between them their future acquisitions. He first entered the service of the Raja of Datia, in Bundelkhand, and subsequently in 1726, he was at Basoda, under Bhopal Agency, in Central India. He saw his opportunity and usurped the estate of Kurwai on the death of its ruler. When his possessions were divided between his sons, Kurwai passed to the elder son Mahmud Izzat Khan while the younger, Ashnulla Khan, received Mahmudgarh and Basoda.

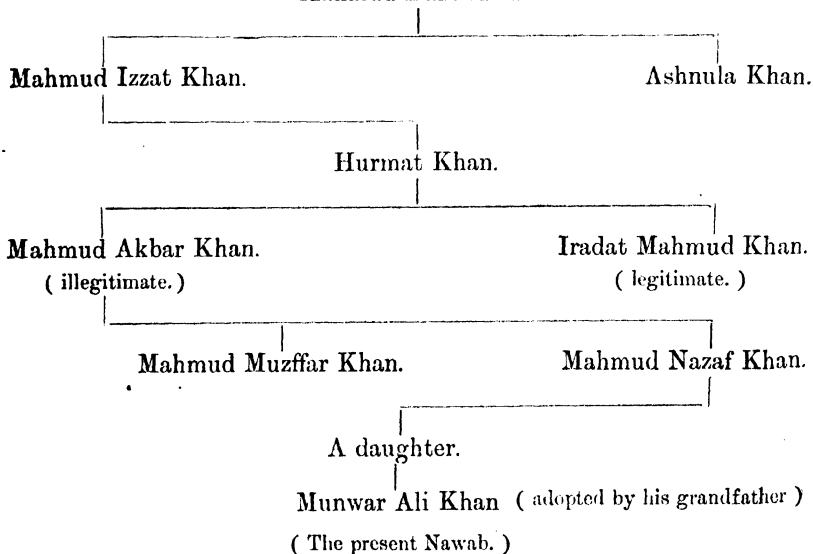
The State suffered a good deal from the raids of the Marathas and the incursions of the Pindaries. At last in 1818, the Chief had to ask for British protection against some of the more troublesome Sindhia officials.

In 1820 Nawab Mahmud Akbar Khan, an illegitimate son of the deceased Nawab Hurmat Khan, seized the *gadi*. The legitimate son invoked the assistance of the British Government which was, however, refused though a suitable pension was procured for the rightful heir. The Nawab died in 1843.

Though the late Nawab had expressed his desire that his younger son, Mahmud Nazfar Khan, should succeed him in preference to his elder son, Nawab Mahmud Muzzafar Khan, the Government declined to accede to the wishes of the deceased Nawab and recognized the elder son as his successor. When he died in 1858, without male issue, his brother's claim was preferred to that of the deceased's grandson through his daughter. As Nawab Nazfar Khan too had no male issue to succeed him, he, in 1874, intimated to the Government his selection of Mahmud Munwar Khan as his successor. This nomination was duly approved and sanctioned by the Government of India. During his regime he abolished transit duties within his State in 1884. Nawab Nazaf Khan died in 1887 and was succeeded by his selected heir Munwar Ali Khan. Suitable arrangements were made to carry on the administration during his minority by the appointment of his father Mazhar Ali Khan as the Regent of the State. The Nawab is now invested with full powers in the management of the State.

Genealogical tree.

Mahmud Dalil Khan.



Residence.—Kurwai, Bhopal Agency; Central India.

KUTHAR.

Area.—19 sq. miles. Population.—3,947.

Revenue.—5,000 rupees.

The Ranas of Kuthar belong to a Rajput family which originally migrated from Kishwar in the Jamu Hills.

Rana Bhupat Singh received a *sanad* confirming him and his heirs in their ancestral possessions in 1815. A payment of Rs. 1,080 has to be made annually for a contingent of Begaris which they are bound to supply. Jaya Chand, the present Rana, is a Chandravanshi Rajput.

Residence.—Kuthar, Punjab; Northern India.

LAKHAPADAR.

Area.—5 sq. miles. Population.—409.

Revenue.—4,000 rupees.

Vira, a Kathi of the Vala clan, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 154 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and Rs. 24 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh on account of *Zoratalbi Hakka*. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. No civil and criminal powers are granted to him. Lakhapadar is 20 miles to the south of Amreli.

Residence.—Lakhapadar, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

LAKHTAR.

Area.—242 sq. miles. Population.—25,203.

Revenue.—80,000 rupees.

The rulers of this State are Rajputs of the Jhala race, and are styled Thakores. Raj Chandra Sinhji who occupied the Halwad *gadi* from 1584 to 1628 had six sons: the eldest of whom Prithirajji was born of the daughter of the Saravaiya Rao of Bhadli; Ashkaran was the second; the third Amar Sinhji was the son of a princess of Jodhpur in Marwad; the rest were Abhaya Sinhji, Ram Sinhji and Ranoji. The eldest died a prisoner at Ahmedabad, leaving two sons Sultanji and Rajoji. On the death of the Raj Saheb in 1628, Sultanji, the real claimant, was superseded by

his uncle Ashkaran. Out of the other sons who were provided with estates during their father's life-time, Abhaya Sinhji was assigned the principality of Lakhtar. Setting up an independent principality, he conquered Than and the neighbouring villages from the Babarias and annexed them to his territory. The Than portion consists of un-arable soil and is covered over by dreary woods and impenetrable jungles infested by lions and other carnivorous animals. The conquest of Than took place about 1604 A. D.

After Abhaya Sinhji's death, prince Vajerajji came to the throne. He was a devout worshipper of Ranchhodji, whose idol he had brought from his maternal home at Dungarpur. Lakhtar was for a time known by the name of Ranchhodpuri. The idol which had been consecrated by him in the palace is still to be seen there. Sesmalji, Gopal Sinhji and Karan Sinhji came to the throne in succession after the death of Vajerajji. Thakore Karan Sinhji led his army against Nawanagar in support of Raj Pratap Sinhji of Halwad who had invaded the Jam's Capital. The allied princes, dethroning Hardholji, who had killed his brother Jam Raya Sinhji and usurped the *gadi* in 1718, placed his nephew Jam Tamachiji on the throne in 1727. The Raj Sahib was strongly supported in that invasion by Babi Salabat Mahmud Khan and Sher Buland Khan, the Mughal viceroys of Ahmedabad.

Abhaya Sinhji, who ascended the throne when Karan Sinhji died, ruled under the personal supervision of the *Faujdar* of Saurashtra. His successors were Rayadharji, Chandra Sinhji and Prithirajji. In 1807-8 when Colonel Walker visited Kathiawad, Prithirajji was reigning at Lakhtar. That officer in his Report says that the State was badly managed, the ruler being under the control of a low-born Khavas Hirji. He raised money by contributions and proceeded at once to raise fortifications. The Rajput *Jagirdars* ran in terror to Baroda to lay their grievances before Genabai, the widow of the late Gackwad Govind Rao, who was a princess of the Lakhtar House. Their complaints were properly attended to, and the debts incurred by Hirji were paid off. A part of the revenues was reserved for the personal expenditure of the Chief, and the rest was appropriated for the discharge of the liabilities and for defraying the cost of the administration of the State.

Prithirajji died in 1835 and his successor Vajerajji in 1846. Prince Karan Sinhji, the present Thakore, ascended the throne on the 15th June 1846, when he was but three months old.

Lakhtar being a third class State in Kathiawad, the Thakore Saheb is invested with criminal powers entitling him to inflict sentence of rigorous imprisonment for a period not exceeding seven years and a fine of 10,000 rupees, while in civil cases he can dispose of suits to the value of 20,000 rupees.

Genealogical tree.

Abhaya Sinhji I., Vajeraji I., Sesmalji, Gopal Sinhji, Karan Sinhji I., Abhaya Sinhji II.; Rayadharji, Chandra Sinhji and—

Prithirajji.

Vajeraji II.

Karan Sinhji.

(The present Thakore Saheb.)

Residence.—Lakhtar, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

LALGARH.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—2,500.

Revenue.—18,000 rupees.

The Thakores of Lalgarrh are Chauhan Rajputs, having descended from a junior branch of the Mainpuri family. Their settlement in Malwa is of a very long standing.

It was with Thakore Salim Sinh that the settlement was first mediated. It was agreed that he and his successors should receive *tankhas* of the amount of Rs. 10,625 from Sindhia, Holkar and the chiefs of Dewas. He was also granted the village of Kachalia in *jagir* and an annual allowance of Rs. 1,000 from Holkar. In addition to these he holds, on a quit-rent tenure, the villages of Sudwas and Dabla from Maharaja Sindhia, and an extra allowance of Rs. 250 from Holkar and Sindhia respectively.

Salim Sinh was succeeded by his son Lakshman Sinh, who in his turn was succeeded by his son Mokam Sinh. Mokam Sinh expired in 1888 and was succeeded by his nephew Hari Sinh, who is the present Thakore of Lalgarrh.

Residence.—Lalgarrh, Western Malwa Agency; Central India.

LALIAD.

Area.—4 sq. miles. Population.—783.

Revenue.—2,850 rupees.

Madar Sinh and Koyabhai, Jhala Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 362 to the British Government. These Talukdars have two independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them. Laliad is 3 miles to the north-east of the Chuda Railway Station.

Residence.—Laliad, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

LATHI.

Area.—48 sq. miles. Population.—8,320.

Revenue.—1,00,000 rupees.

The rulers of Lathi are Rajputs of the Gohel race and are officially styled 'Thakores.' They belong to the same family as the Chiefs of Bhavnagar and Palitana. Sejakji Gohel had a daughter named Valam Kunwarba who was given in marriage to Rah Khengar of Junagarh. Obtaining the permission of the Rah he founded a small village and named it after him Sejakpur. He had three sons, of whom the eldest Ranoji succeeded to his estate on his death in 1290. He peopled Kanpur and settled himself there. The present Thakore Saheb of Bhavnagar is a descendant of this eldest branch of the family. The other two sons of Sejakji, Shahji and Sarangji, obtained the estates of Mandvi *chovisi* and Arthila *chovisi* from the Rah. The descendants of Shahji are at present ruling at Palitana, while those of Sarangji at Lathi. Sarangji had a son named Jasoji whose eldest son, Noghanji, obtained possession of Lathi by force of arms. He was succeeded by his brother Bhimji, who had two sons Dudoji and Arjun Sinhi. The latter had a daughter, Kuntadevi, who was afterwards married to prince Mandlik of Junagarh. She was brought up by her uncle, as her father had fallen in a fight with the Mahomedans. While Dudoji was plundering the imperial territories, the Viceroy wrote to Rah Mandlik to chastise him for his impertinence. Though so closely related to him by ties of matrimony, the Rah shewed no signs of reluctance to carry out the imperial mandate. Dudoji was also prepared to give him battle. When

the rival forces were hotly engaged in a fierce skirmish, Dudoji requested Mandlik to retire from the field as he was quite young, and that it was not proper for him to court death in his flowery youth. This presumption on the part of the old Gohel was too much for the young Rah to bear, and he sent him a reply saying that he should prepare himself for a combat, as he would not bring disgrace upon his house by retiring from the field of battle. At length the two forces were arrayed against each other, and Dudoji was killed in the terrible fight that ensued. Arthila was demolished and its ruins are still to be seen in the vicinity of Lathi. After the death of Dudoji and the destruction of Arthila, Limshahji *alias* Jijibawa established his court at Lathi. Jijibawa had rendered good service to Sarangji, the founder of the Bhavnagar branch, whose capital was then at Umralla, and was rewarded by him with the assignment of twelve villages of Valukad.

In the beginning, the chiefs of Lathi extended their dominions by fresh conquests in the neighbourhood. Later on, the fierce attacks of their cousins of Bhavnagar and Palitana, and the Kathi chiefs, contributed to a speedy decline of the State and rendered the assignment of rich estates to the junior members of the stock necessary for its preservation. In the middle of the eighteenth century Lakhoji was reigning at Lathi and the small territory which was then under his sway having been desolated, he was unable to pay his tribute to the government of H. H. the Gaekwad. He formed a matrimonial alliance with the Gaekwad by marrying his daughter to Damaji and granting him in dower the *paragana* of Chabadia, which afterwards came to be known as Damnagar. The State, which was frequently harassed by the inroads of the Bhavnagar, Palitana and several Kathi chiefs before the formation of the matrimonial alliance, was saved from total destruction by the timely protection afforded by the Gaekwad. It was agreed not to levy any tribute from the State except the *Nazzar* of a horse every year. At the time of Colonel Walker's Settlement of Kathiawad in 1806-7 Sur Sinhji, the son of Lakhoji, was ruling at Lathi. He found the resources of the State in an exhausted condition.

The present ruler Sur Sinhji, *alias* Bapubha, succeeded his father Vakhat Sinhji when he was a mere child, and the administration was carried on under the supervision of the Political Agent. It is a fourth class State in the province of Kathiawad, and its Chief is invested with criminal powers entitling him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for a period not exceeding three years and a fine upto Rs. 5,000, while in civil cases he is em-

powered to hear and decide suits to the amount of Rs. 10,000. Lathi is a Railway Station on the Bhavnagar-Gondal Railway.

Residence.—Lathi, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

LAWA.

Area.—18 sq. miles. Population.—3,360.

Revenue.—4,500 rupees.

Dhirat Sinh, by caste a Cachhwaha Rajput, is the present Thakore. He traces his descent from an offshoot of the Jaipur House. Dhirat Sinh succeeded to the *gadi* as a minor in 1865. The administration was under his uncle Kewat Sinh. He was treacherously murdered with his fourteen followers by Mahmud Ali Khan, the Nawab of Tonk. On investigation the Nawab, who was found guilty of this murder, was deposed and the Lawa Thakore was taken under British protection. The heirs of the other victims received maintenance from the revenues of the Tonk state through the British Government. The Thakore pays a tribute of Rs. 3,000 to the Paramount Power.

Residence.—Lawa, Jaipur Agency ; Rajputana.

LIKHI.

Area.—30 sq. miles. Population.—1,513.

Revenue.—3,426 rupees.

Jaswant Sinh, a Chauhan Koli by caste, is the present Thakore. He succeeded his father, Amar Sinh, as a minor. During his nonage the State was placed under the management of the Mahi Kantha Agency. The Chief of this State pays no tribute to any higher authority. Thakore Jaswant Sinh is a sixth class Sirdar in the Mahi Kantha, and is empowered to inflict punishment of three months' imprisonment with hard labour and a fine upto Rs. 100, while in civil cases he is entitled to hear and decide suits to the amount of Rs. 500. The Thakore has not been granted

a *sanad* of adoption, but the succession is governed by the rule of primogeniture.

* Residence.—Likhi, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

LIMBDA.

Area.—7 sq. miles. Population.—1,839.

Revenue.—25,000 rupees.

Bhagwant Sinh, Pratap Sinh and Hari Sinh, Jhala Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 934 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and Rs. 278 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh on account of *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have three independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are granted to them. Limbda is $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant from the Jalia Station on the Dheraji branch of the Bhavnagar-Gondal Railway.

Residence.—Limbda, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

LITAR GOTHDA.

Area.— $1\frac{3}{4}$ sq. miles. Population.—325.

Revenue.—1,197 rupees.

Bhaga, Ada, Vaja, Moti, Kolis by caste, known by the appellation of Kotwals, are the present share-holders. There are also two Musalman share-holders in this estate whose names are Saiyed Bande Ali and Saiyed Hussain Miyan who reside at Pali. These share-holders pay a tribute of Rs. 201 to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda through the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them.

Residence.—Litar Gothda, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

LODHKA.

Area.—15 sq. miles. Population.—4,655.

Revenue.—25,000 rupees.

This estate was received in *giras* by a son of Lakhoji, the Thakore of Rajkot. The name of the founder is yet unknown. Hari Sinh and Pathji, Jhala Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 1,287 to the British Government and Rs. 405 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have two independent tribute-payers. They are entered in the seventh class among the chiefs of Kathiawad, and as such they are empowered to inflict rigorous imprisonment for a term not exceeding 15 days and fine upto Rs. 25. In civil matters they are left without any jurisdiction whatsoever. Lodhika is 15 miles south-west of the Rajkot Railway Station.

Residence.—Lodhika, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

LUGHASI.

Area.—47 sq. miles. Population.—6,703.

Revenue.—10,000 rupees.

Hirdi Shah had two sons, the younger of whom, Salim Sinh, became Diwan of Lughasi.

At the time of the British occupation of Bundelkhand, Dhiraj Sinh, the son of Salim Sinh, was in possession of seven villages which were confirmed to him in 1808. He abdicated in favour of his second son, Sardar Sinh, in 1814. The elder son Padam Sinh, who had incurred his father's displeasure by his rebellious conduct, was provided with a permanent *jagir*. The arrangement was sanctioned by the Supreme Government. The old Raja died in 1819.

Sardar Sinh, whose estate was laid waste by the Mutineers, remained steadfast in his allegiance to the British Crown during the Mutiny of 1857. The British Government rewarded his loyalty by bestowing upon him the title of 'Rao Bahadur,' and conferring a *jagir* of Rs. 2,000 a year and a *Khilat* of Rs. 3,000. The privilege of adoption was also accorded to him. He died in 1860 and his only son, Murat Sinh, having died before him, was succeeded by his grandson, Hira Sinh. Some arrangements were made

with him for the keeping up of the jungle roads in 1862 which were subsequently modified in certain particulars in 1873. Rao Bahadur Khet Singh succeeded his father in 1872, who is the present Chief of Lughasi.

Genealogical tree.

Salim Singh.

Dhirat Singh.

Padam Singh.

Sardar Singh.

Murat Singh.

Hira Singh.

Khet Singh.

(The present Chief.)

Residence.—Lughasi, Bundelkhand; Central India.

LUHARU.

Area.—226 sq. miles. Population.—20,139.

Revenue.—66,000 rupees.

The estate was granted to Ahmud Bakshi Khan for his services in conducting the negotiations with Lord Lake in 1806 as the Vakil of the Alwar chief on condition of loyalty to the British Government and military service. He died in 1827 and his son Shams-ud-Din Khan who succeeded him was executed in 1835 for the murder of Mr. Fraser, the British Agent at Delhi. The family was also deprived of their Firozpur *paragna*. His brothers Amin-ud-Din Khan and Zia-ud-Din Khan were put in possession of the Luharu *paragna*. As the brothers could not long pull on amicably, it was resolved that the younger Zia-ud-Din Khan should receive an annual allowance of Rs. 18,000; though he did not quietly and without protestation submit to the decree of the Government. During 1857 as they were found with the mutineers in Delhi, they were put under surveillance; but subsequently they were set at large. The elder brother died in 1869 when he was succeeded by his son Ala-ud-Din Ahmud Khan.

In 1874 the Government conferred on him and his successors, for ever, the title of 'Nawab'. The Nawab had twice in 1878 and 1882 to ask for loans from the British Government wherewith to pay off the State debts. The Government insisted upon the Nawab's absence from the State, the management whereof was entrusted to his elder son. He died in 1884 when Amir-ud-Din Khan who was already in management of the State succeeded him. He is the present Nawab of Luharu. The title of C. I. E. was conferred on him on 2nd January 1893.

Genealogical tree.

Ahmud Baksh Khan.

Shams-ud-Din Khan.

Amin-ud-Din Khan.

Zia-ud-Din Khan.

Ala-ud-Din Ahmud Khan.

Amir-ud-Din Khan.

(The present Nawab.)

Residence.—Luharu, Punjab: Northern India.

MAGORI.

Area.—25 sq. miles. Population.—3,818.

Revenue.—8,978 rupees.

The Thakores of this Taluka are related to the Chiefs of Malpur, and are Rajputs of the Rathod race. Raol Govind Sinhji, the second chief of Malpur, had two sons, Punch Sinhji, who ascended the *gadi* after his father's death in 1537, and Ram Sinhji to whom the estate of Magori was allotted for maintenance. The present Chief Mokam Sinhji is his direct descendant. He is a fifth class Sirdar in the Mahi Kantha Agency, so he is empowered in criminal cases to inflict rigorous imprisonment for six months and fine upto Rs. 250, while in civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose of suits to the amount of Rs. 1,000.

Residence.—Magori, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

MAGUNA.

Area.—8 sq. miles. Population.—4,500.

Revenue.—9,500 rupees.

Malam Sinh, Makwana Koli by caste, is the present Thakore. A tribute of Rs. 892-5-10 is paid by him to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda. The Thakore is a descendant of the Katosan House. He is enlisted in the seventh class among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha, so in criminal cases he is empowered to inflict rigorous imprisonment for one month and fine upto Rs. 50, while in civil matters he decides suits to the amount of Rs. 250 only.

Residence.—Maguna, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

MAHLOG.

Area.—52 sq. miles. Population.—9,329.

Revenue.—10,000 rupees.

The present Chief of Mahlog is Thakore Raghunath Chand. The *Sanad* was granted to the then Chief Thakore Sunsaroo in 1815. The contingent of 40 Begharis is commuted to a money payment of Rs. 1,450.

Residence.—Mailog, Punjab; Northern India.

MAHMUDGARH.

Area.—80 sq. miles. Population.—4,712.

Revenue.—7,000 rupees.

It was formerly included in the Kurwai State, but was assigned as *jagir* to the younger son of the chief. (See Kurwai *ante*, p. 191.)

The present Chief is Hafiz Kuli Khan. He pays no tribute to any State, and is dependent on the British Government.

Residence.—Mahmudgarh, Bhopal Agency; Central India.

MAHUWA.

Area.—76 sq. miles. Population.—233.

Revenue.—2,000 rupees.

Dungarji, Ram Sinh and Hari Sinh, Jadeja Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 120 to the British Government and Rs. 38 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have one independent tribute-payer. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them.

Residence.—Mahuwa, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

MAKRAI.

Area.—155 sq. miles. Population.—18,547.

Revenue.—38,700 rupees.

This petty estate had to struggle hard for its very existence against such powerful foes as the Peshwa, Sindhia and the Pindharis. At last it sought the protection of the all-powerful British arms, and is now secure in the hands of its present Chief Raja Lachu Sah *alias* Bharat Sah. He was born in 1846 and inherited the estate from his adoptive father in 1866. It was in the year 1858 that the Chief of Makrai was placed under the control of the Commissioner, Jabalpur Division, though the officer whose advice the Chief was instructed to carry out and with whom he was to correspond on all State matters was the Deputy Commissioner, Hoshangabad. The Chief under instructions from the Supreme Government abolished transit duties within his State for which he received a compensation of Rs. 2,243-14-5 a year, which amount was in 1863 commuted into a lump sum of Rs. 23,000. In 1862 the then Chief (adoptive father of the present Chief) was granted a *sanad* of adoption, in return whereof he signed an acknowledgment of fealty to the British *Raj*.

In 1890 the present Chief was deprived of his powers for a period of three years, for general mismanagement, and a competent Diwan was appointed to properly conduct the administration under the direct control of the Deputy Commissioner of Hoshangabad. The State pays no tribute to the Paramount Power.

Residence.—Makrai, Hoshangabad District; Central Provinces.

MAKSUDANGARH.

Area.—81 sq. miles. Population.—14,370.

Revenue.—31,000 rupees.

The estate was granted to Raja Bairi Sal by the Maharaja of Gwalior; it was formerly included in the Raghugarh estate. Though it does not hold a British guarantee, its internal management is carried on under the direct supervision of the Political Agent of Bhopal. The estate is free from any tribute obligations. A native administrator was appointed by the Political Agent in 1880, as the Chief, Raja Raghunath Singh, was found to be altogether incapable of managing his affairs.

Residence.—Maksudangarh, Bhopal Agency: Central India.

MALIA.

Area.—102 sq. miles. Population.—13,589.

Revenue.—60,000 rupees.

Kanyoji, the founder of Morbi, had a large progeny consisting of eight sons; the sixth of whom Modji received in appanage the four villages including Malia in Machhu Kantha, and Vandhia with several others in Vagad. Kanyoji, who died in 1734, was succeeded by Aliyoji. Modji desired to throw off the yoke of the parent state, and with that object in view he invited the Mianas from Sindh, and induced them to settle within his territory. In addition to the villages received from his father, Modji seized several others in Machhu Kantha with the aid of the Miana settlers. On his death his eldest son Nathoji ascended the *gadi*, the younger Dewoji receiving Vandara. Of the seven sons of Nathoji, Bhimoji being the

There are two theories about the origin of the term Mianas. One represents it to be a patronymic from ' Miyo ' or ' Miyan ' the founder of the race. The second theory is that it is a corruption of ' Mene ' the original term by which the race was known. The term in the Sindhi language means a low or inferior race. They were originally the Much-hiaras in Sindhi. As the sea is the home of the Chanchias (pirates), land is the home of the Mianas. Chanchias commit robbery on the sea, and the Mianas on the land. Their robberies were committed mercilessly. Under the British rule, their passion for plunder is curbed, but occasionally they find their natural propensity too strong to be checked.

eldest received the *gadi*; while Abherajji and Deshalji got Navagan. Godji got Vandhia, Pathaji got Chitrod, Kumbhoji Vijpusar and Parvat Sinh Kumbhardi; all these *giras* villages were situated in Vagad.

Bhimoji was succeeded by Dosoji who was a powerful prince, but on one occasion he was treacherously seized and carried as a prisoner to Morbi in 1802-3 by Jioji. The Mianas rose to his rescue; and by a series of successful raids so far desolated the country that Jioji was forced to agree to his liberation and obtain relief from constant anxiety caused by their inroads. The turbulent character of the Mianas and their depredations in the neighbourhood had a very baneful effect on the whole province. A regular detachment was sent against them by the British Government in 1810, but on their unconditional surrender it was withdrawn.

Satoji, the successor of Desoji, had three sons, the eldest of whom Makoji having predeceased his father, his son Modji succeeded him to the *gadi*. He is the present ruling Chief of Malia. Kalyan Sinhji received in fief the village of Khirao and some lands in Khakharechi and to Jalam Sinhji was assigned the village of Vardusar.

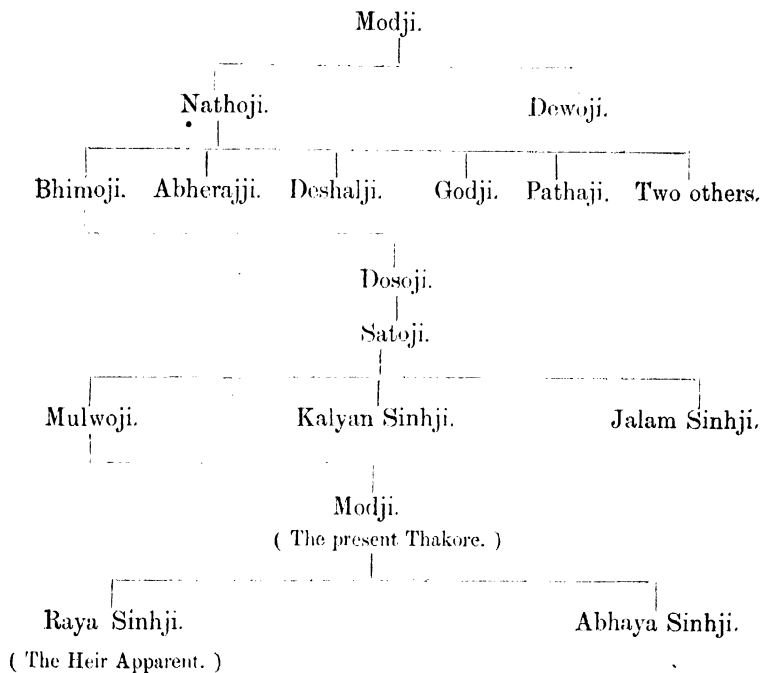
The Mianas had some hand in the dacoity committed on the 1st of March 1879, in which the Mail was plundered and the property robbed was recovered from the neighbourhood of Malia. This circumstance brought the State under the displeasure of the Supreme Government. Again in 1880 in the month of February some dispute arose in connection with fodder, and a sentry of the 3rd Light Cavalry was shot dead at his post. Despite the great and strenuous efforts to detect the criminal, the perpetrator of that foul murder could not be apprehended. Government at last decided to deprive the Chief of his criminal jurisdiction, and a British Court was established there to exercise the criminal powers. The Mianas were disarmed, their homes scattered over the country were destroyed, and they were compelled to confine themselves within the walls of Malia.

Though Modji was restored his powers, the criminal jurisdiction over the Mianas was retained by Government, and a special officer was appointed as Magistrate to exercise criminal jurisdiction over them. Modji has two sons Raya Sinhji and Abhaya Sinhji. The management of the state is placed under British control.

The Chief of Malia is enlisted in the fourth class among the chiefs of Kathiawad, so he is empowered to inflict rigorous imprisonment for three

years and fine upto Rs. 5,000, while in civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose of suits to the amount of Rs. 10,000. Malia is 22 miles distant from the Morbi Railway Station.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Malia, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

MALPUR.

Area.—75 sq. miles. Population.—17,125.

Revenue.—18,751 rupees.

The Talukdars of Malpur are said to have descended from the former Raos of Idar and are Rajputs of the Rathod tribe. Virajmalji who was allotted a small fief quitted Idar in the closing years of the 13th century, and his grandson Khanandji took up his abode at a small village called Man in the year 1344. His grandson Randhir Sinh removed from Man to Modasa, and finally Wagh Sinh, the grandson of Randhir Sinh, settled at Malpur in 1466. When Wagh Sinh was at Modasa, a Bhil chieftain

named Malo Kanth held possession of Malpur. The Bhil tyrant saw a beautiful Brahman girl of Malpur, and his strong animal passion urged him to forcibly demand her hand in marriage. The father who belonged to the higher order of caste deemed it humiliating and polluting to marry his daughter to a Shudra, and after urging several excuses in vain, he at last boldly refused to comply with his impious wishes. Malpur had now become a hot ground for him and his family, and he secretly went away to Modasa conveying with him 'the golden apple of discord'. He then retated to Wagh Sinh all that had happened, and exhorted the Kshatrya to fly to a Brahman's protection. The Modasa chief with true Rajput chivalry marched upon Malpur, and vanquishing Malo Kanth, who fell in the fight, took possession of Malpur, and established his *gadi* there. Wagh Sinh was eighth in descent from Virajmalji. The present Thakore of Malpur is a direct descendant of this Wagh Sinh and bears the family title of Raol.

When Raol Indar Sinhji was on the *gadi* of Malpur in 1780, Fatteh Sinh Rao Gaekwad marched upon it, and levied tribute from the Chief. From that date this Taluka has become liable to pay to the Gaekwad a certain cess known as '*Ghasdana*.'

The present Thakore Dip Sinhji is a Rathod Rajput, who inherited the estate on the death of his father Shiv Sinhji in 1882. He is ranked as a third class chief in the Mahi Kantha Agency, and as such is entitled to exercise criminal jurisdiction to the extent of passing sentence of imprisonment with hard labour upto 2 years, and fine upto Rs. 1,000. In civil matters he is entitled to hear and dispose of suits to the extent of Rs. 5,000.

Residence.—Malpur, Mahi Kantha Agency : Bombay Presidency.

MAMDOT.

In 1809 when the Cis-Sutlej States sought the protection of the British Government against the aggressive tendencies of Ranjit Sinh of Punjab, the Chief of Mamdot was alone in withholding the allegiance and fought against English arms in the Sikh campaigns : he deserted the losing cause at last and fought against his former brothers-in-arms with all the proverbial zeal of the neophyte. The Government recognized his position as a Chief requiring him to put his contingent on the peace establishment

of 50. His subsequent misrule resulted in the reduction of his position to that of a *jagirdar* in 1856 and led to his removal to Lahore. His estate was placed under British management and he was allowed only the surplus revenue thereof. He died in 1863.

The Government were pleased to replace the State in its original status of a feudatory chiefship, and the brother of the deceased Jalal-ud-Din Khan was recognized as the Nawab of Mamdot with certain restricted powers. He died in 1875 and his son Nizam-ud-Din succeeded him. In 1891 he died leaving a son, Kutub-ud-Din Khan, who succeeded him. But the son being a minor, the State is placed under British management.

Residence.—Mamdot. Punjab; Northern India.

MANAWAO.

Area.—5 sq. miles. Population.—528.

Revenue.—3,000 rupees.

Bhaya, a Kathi of the Vala clan, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 149 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and Rs. 23 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortulbi Hakka*. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. No civil and criminal powers are granted to him. Manawao is 7 miles distant from Lakhapadar.

Residence.—Manawao, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

MANDWA.

Area.—16½ sq. miles. Population.—

Revenue.—35,700 rupees.

The Thakores of this State are Rajputs of the Khichi Chauhan race. After the defeat and capture of Prithuraj Chauhan, the last of the Rajput sovereigns of Delhi, his descendants fled to Malwa and occupied a certain part of that province. Their leader Khengar Sinhji founded the principality of Ghadh Gagroon. Khichi Hamir, a distinguished representative of his house, fought with Alla-ud-Din Khilji at Ranasthambhor in 1300 with conspicuous gallantry and left behind him immortal fame. A band of Khichis under Patande, another scion of the same illustrious house, march-

ed towards the easterly regions of Gujarat, and conquered the state of Champaner at the foot of Pavagarh, then held by a Bhil chief. In that adventurous band was one Pratap Sinhji, the brother of the leader, Patande, who proceeded further in the interior and succeeded in founding a chiefship of 350 villages. Nahar Sinhji, a descendant of his, had to relinquish his chiefship before the advance of the army of Mahmud Beghada. He then proceeded to Nanderi, where he received the fair hand of the daughter of Nandraj and became his sole heir and successor to the *gadi*. His grandson Mul Sinhji removed his court to Chandod, whence it was again transferred by Wagh Sinhji to old Mandwa. Among his descendants was one Kanji, who had three sons, the eldest of whom Wagh Rana established himself at modern Mandwa in 1669. The second son Sabal Sinhji founded the chiefship of Shanor. The present chiefs of Mandwa and Shanor are the representatives of the lines of Wagh Rana and Sabal Sinhji respectively. The successors of Wagh Rana at Mandwa were Rana Sang, Ram Sinhji, Kanji, Rana Wagh, Khuman Sinhji and Jit Sinhji, the present Chief. Khuman Sinhji died on the 13th September 1890. Jit Sinhji has prosecuted his studies at the Raj Kumar College at Rajkot. The State was under British management during the minority of Jit Sinhji. On attaining his majority he was invested with full powers on the 19th October 1896.

The Chief is empowered, in criminal cases, to inflict punishment of one month's rigorous imprisonment and fine of fifty rupees; and in civil cases his jurisdiction extends to suits of the value of two hundred rupees.

Residence.—Mandwa, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

MANGAL.

Area.—14 sq. miles. Population.—1,091.

Revenue.—700 rupees.

Rana Tilok Sinh is the present Chief. He succeeded to the *gadi* after the death of his father Jit Sinh in November 1892. The State was formerly a dependency of Kahlur, but after the expulsion of the Gurkhas in 1815, it was declared independent. A *sanad* was granted on the 20th December 1815 to Bahadur Sinh, who was then Rana of Mangal.

Residence.—Mangal, Punjab; Northern India.

MANSA.

Area.—27 sq. miles. Population.—14,926.

Revenue.—55,349 rupees.

Mulraj, the first of the Solanki kings of Gujrat, having killed Samat Sinhji, the last of the Chavada dynasty, and his heirs, ascended the throne in 942. From this general destruction one infant son of Samat Sinh—Ahipata—aged only 12 months, was saved by his mother, who safely conveyed him to her paternal home at Jaisalmer. There he grew up, and when able to wield the sword, he went out against Mulraj Solanki, and seizing 900 villages in Kutch, he made Morgarh his capital. No less than fifteen of his descendants ruled there. When Punjaji, the fifteenth in descent from Ahipat, was deprived of Morgarh, he removed his seat of government to Dharapuri (a village now under Palanpur), and established a new principality consisting of 84 villages. Alla-ud-Din Khilji, the Emperor of Delhi, conquered Dharapuri, but pleased with the valuable services rendered by the chief, he conferred upon him Ambasan with 252 villages. Punjaji then made Ambasan the capital of his new chiefdom. A succession of five princes occupied the *gadi* after him, of whom the fifth Jaya Sinhji had three sons, Itardasji, Surajmalji, and Samat Sinhji. They distributed the hereditary estate among themselves, each obtaining a share of 84 villages. Itar Sinhji got Ambod, Surajmalji Varsoda, while Samat Sinhji received Ambasan, where each of them resided and carried on his affairs separately.

Samat Sinhji was succeeded by Lunkaranji, Man Sinhji, Jesaji and Sur Sinhji respectively at Ambasan. The last named Sur Sinhji removed his seat of government from Ambasan to Mansa. The present Thakore Takhat Sinhji is 13th in descent from Sur Sinhji. He inherited the paternal estate when he was a minor on the death of his father Raj Sinhji, which event took place on 18th May 1889. He is ranked among the third class chiefs in the Mahi Kantha Agency, and as such enjoys criminal jurisdiction of passing sentence of imprisonment with hard labour for a period upto 2 years, and a fine upto Rs. 1,000. In civil matters his jurisdiction extends to hearing and disposing of suits to the value of Rs. 5,000.

Residence.—Mansa, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

MATHWAR.

Area.—15 sq. miles. Population.—815.

Revenue.—4,000 rupees.

Since the death of the late Thakore in 1865, the management of the estate had been intrusted to the Ali Rajpur Darbar in compliance with the wishes of the deceased, and subsequently on his deposition in 1869, to Mahmud Nafzar Khan, the Superintendent in charge of Ali Rajpur.

Thakor Ranjit Sinh was placed in independent charge of his estate in 1883.

Residence.—Mathwar, Bhopawar Agency ; Central India.

MATRA-TIMBA.

Area.—6 sq. miles. Population.—433.

Revenue.—1,550 rupees.

Raning, Kathi of the Khachar clan, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 290 to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda and Rs. 72 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. No civil and criminal powers are granted to him. Matra-Timba is 17 miles west-north-west of the Botad Station on the Bhavnagar-Gondal Railway.

Residence.—Matra-Timba, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

MEMADPUR.

Area.—8 sq. miles. Population.—636.

Revenue.—1,675 rupees.

Manaji, Makwana Koli by caste, is the present Thakore. He pays a tribute of Rs. 174-9-4 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda through the Political Agent of Mahi Kantha. The Thakore is a descendant of the Katosan House. He is a seventh class Sirdar among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha, so he is empowered to inflict, in criminal cases, a punishment of one month with hard labour and a fine upto Rs. 50. In civil matters he hears and decides suits to the amount of Rs. 250 only.

Residence.—Memadpur, Mahi Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

MENGNI.

Nar Sinh, Jadeja Rajput by caste, is the present Talukdar. He succeeded to the *gadi* on the 28th December 1895 after the death of his father, which event took place on the 16th December 1895. He has received liberal education both in English and Vernacular languages. A tribute of Rs. 3,412 is paid by him to the British Government. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. This Taluka is under the management of the Kathiawad Agency owing to the debt incurred by the late Talukdar. A manager is appointed to look after its affairs. The Talukdar is enlisted in the fifth class among the chiefs of Kathiawad, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for two years and a fine up to Rs. 2,000. In civil matters he is competent to hear and decide suits to the amount of Rs. 5,000. The Talukdar has a brother, whose name is Shiv Sinh. He is receiving education at the Girasia Talukdari School, Wadhwan. Mengni is 15 miles south of the Rajkot Railway Station.

Residence.—Mengni, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

MEVLI.

Area.—6 sq. miles. Population.—1,500.

Revenue.—2,363 rupees.

Gembhai, Ada, Ade Sinh and Balubhai, Kolis by caste, known by the appellation of Pagi, are the present share-holders. They pay Rs. 1,501 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda, as a tribute. No civil and criminal powers are granted to them.

Residence.—Mevli, Rewa Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

MEWASA.

Area.—24 sq. miles. Population.—1,175.

Revenue.—6,203 rupees.

Abheji and Mana, Kathis of the Khachar clan, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 445 to the British Government, and Rs. 114 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have six independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are

enjoyed by them. Mewasa is 36 miles south-west of the Wadhvan Railway Station.

Residence.—Mewasa, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

MIRAJ.

(Senior Branch.)

Area.—339 sq. miles. Population.—88,343.

Revenue.—3,11,919 rupees.

Gangadhar Rao had two sons, Narayan Rao and Madhav Rao, of whom the eldest Narayan Rao founded this branch of the family. He was succeeded, after his death, by his son, Ganpat Rao, who became a feudatory to the Paramount Power after the fall of the Peshwa. He had a brother Moreshwar Rao, who lived with him. Moreshwar Rao claimed for the partition of the estate, which was not effected, owing to the death of Ganpat Rao in 1833, and he was obliged to withdraw his claim. Ganpat Rao had two minor sons, Gangadhar Rao and Narayan Rao, aged seven and five years respectively. During the minority of the two brothers, Moreshwar Rao was appointed their guardian. He expired in 1839 and the administration of the minors' estate was carried on by the two ministers till 1849, when Gangadhar Rao Bala Saheb attaining the age of majority assumed the administration. Gangadhar Rao was loyal to the British Government during the dark days of the great Indian Mutiny. In recognition thereof he was granted a *sanad* conferring on him the right of adoption in 1859. He breathed his last in 1861 and was succeeded by his adopted son Ganpat Rao Tatia Saheb who was a minor. Arrangements were made for the education of the minor and for the management of the estate during his minority. On attaining his majority in 1871 he was entrusted with the sole management of the estate and was shortly afterwards appointed a member of the Legislative Council of Bombay. He expired in November 1874 without any issue. On the 6th June 1875 his widow with the sanction of the Paramount Power adopted Gopal Rao, the younger grandson of Vinayak Rao, the Chief of Sangli, who on his adoption took the family name of Gangadhar Rao. He was ten years of age at the time. During his minority the estate was under the direct supervision of the Political Agent of the Southern Maratha Country. He was educated at the

Residency Rajkumar College, Indore. On attaining the age of majority he was entrusted with the sole administration of the estate. He pays an annual tribute of Rs. 12,557 to the Paramount Power on account of service. In 1883 certain lands belonging to this estate were taken for Irrigation Works for which an annual sum of Rs. 1,194 is paid as compensation.

The Chief has powers to try his own subjects only for capital offences without the express permission of the Political Agent, and ranks as a first class Sardar in the Southern Maratha Country. The genealogical tree is given below the history of the Junior Branch.

Residence.—Miraj, Southern Maratha Country ; Bombay Presidency.

MIRAJ.

(Junior Branch.)

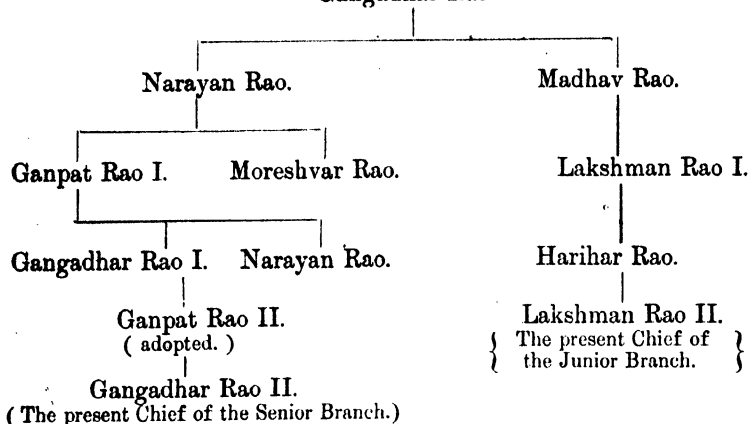
Area.—225 sq. miles. Population.—35,487.

Revenue.—2,12,131 rupees.

Gangadhar Rao had two sons, Narayan Rao and Madhav Rao, of whom the younger founded this branch of the family. He died in 1859 and the estate devolved on his son Lakshman Rao I. He was succeeded, after his death in February 1874, by his son Harihar Rao. Harihar Rao died in May 1877 leaving a minor son Lakshman Rao II. who is now 17 years of age. During the minority of the young Chief the administration of the estate is carried on by Joint *Karbharis*, one appointed by the Political Agent, Southern Maratha Country, and the other by the mother of the young Chief. He is a first class Sardar in the Southern Maratha Country and pays an annual contribution of Rs. 6412-8-0 on account of service to the Paramount Power. The Chief of this branch has powers to try his own subjects only for capital offences, without the express permission of the Political Agent and has the right of adoption.

Genealogical tree.

Gangadhar Rao.



Residence.—Miraj, Southern Maratha Country ; Bombay Presidency.

MOHANPUR.

Area.—85 sq. miles. Population.—16,380.

Revenue.—26,621 rupees.

The Talukdars of Mohanpur are Rajputs of the Rehvar tribe. They claim to be the descendants of the Raos of Chandravati, a principality that was in existence in olden times, in the vicinity of Mount Abu. Jaspal, a descendant of the Rao, first settled himself at Hadol, a village in this Taluka, in the year 1277, and Prathwiraj, the thirteenth in descent from Jaspal, removed his capital to Ghadwada. He subdued several villages surrounding Ghadwada, and set up a separate Taluka. His descendants then settling themselves in different places formed different small Talukas and Mohanpur is one of them.

The present Thakore Himat Sinhji is a Rehvar Rajput. He ascended the *gadi* when he was a minor on the demise of his father Umed Sinhji on 6th October 1882. He is a third class Chief in the Mahi Kantha Agency, and is entitled to inflict punishment of rigorous imprisonment upto 2 years and fine upto Rs. 1,000. His civil jurisdiction extends to hearing and disposing of suits to the amount of Rs. 5,000.

Residence.—Mohanpur, Mahi Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

MOHARBHANJ.

Area.—15 sq. miles. Population.—81,195.

Revenue.—25,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the Districts of Singbhum, Manbhum and Midnapur; on the east by the Balasor District; on the south by the State of Nilgiri and the Puri District; and on the west by the State of Kaunjhar. .

The ancestor of the family of the Raja, Adhi Bhanj, was a Kachhwa Rajput claiming kinship with the Jaipur royal family. He went over to Orissa, some two thousand years ago, and established his sway over the country lying between the Suvarnrekha and Dhinkund. Subsequently when the southern portion of the territory passed under the authority of Joti Bhanj as the Raja of Kaunjhar, the territory between the Suvarnrekha and the Vaitarna constituted the estate which is known as Moharbhanj proper. The late Raja Krishna Chandra was 39th Raja on the Moharanj *gadi*. He enjoyed the title of Maharaja as a personal distinction. So did his father Jadunath Bhanj Deo for having assisted the British Government in the suppression of the Kolhan riots. Tikait Babu is the courtesy title of the heir-apparent.

Residence.—Moharbhanj, Orissa; Bengal.

MOKA PAGI-NU-MUWADU.

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—175.

Revenue.—459 rupees.

Gembhai and Natha, Kolis by caste, are the present share-holders. They are known by the appellation of *Pagis*. A tribute of Rs. 125 is paid by them to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them.

Residence.—Moka Pagi-nu-muwadu, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

MONPUR.

Visaji, the son of Dungarji, the Talukdar of Gogha, had two sons, Kanji and Ram Sinhji, of whom the elder succeeded to the Gogha *gadi* and the younger separated himself from the elder brother and established himself at Dhrai in 1270. He got from his brother 7 villages in Ukhla, Agiali and Akolali and twelve villages in Moti Dhrai: in all thirty-three villages, which constituted the Taluka of Ram Sinhji. His successors were Jashpalji, Jashoji and Shiyaji. An addition of eleven villages in Monpur acquired by conquest was made by Shiyaji. He made Mochhapur his principal head-quarters. He was succeeded by his son Jhanjharji, and his grandson Ramji had two sons Govindji who sat on the *gadi* after his death and Dungarji who received in appanage from his brother three villages in Ukhala. Of the three sons of Govindji, two, Dadoji and Arjanji, died childless; the third son Adoji had a numerous progeny consisting of seven sons. Dosaji being the eldest ascended the *gadi*; the second son Amraji received Rangpur and Mul Dhrai; the third and the sixth Ramji and Ramsinhji received Agiali, Bordi and Jarasyun; the other three Abherajji, Asoji, and Dosaji died without any issue. Sodoji had five sons, of whom the eldest Siyaji died childless; Rayadhharji got Pipariyun; Meruji got Budhel; and Sartanji Vavdi in *Jagir*.

The second son, Sur Sinhji, ascended the *gadi*. Sursinhji had also three sons, Ratanji, Kesharji and Vachhoji. The eldest got the *gadi*, the second son died without any issue and the third son received Badela in *giras*. Of the two sons of Ratanji, Adoji ascended the *gadi*, and Vaje Rajji got Vankadi in appanage. As the eldest son of Adoji, *viz.* Nagoji, died childless, he was succeeded by his brother Hathoji. Hathoji was succeeded on the *gadi* by both his sons, Pathoji and Jasoji respectively. They too died without leaving any issue. Consequently the *gadi* passed to the descendants of Vajerajji. He had two sons, Vanoji and Mepaji, and Vanoji had a son Patobhai. He was alive when the *gadi* fell vacant: so he ascended the *gadi* and the sons of Mepaji, Meloji, Jivobhai and Gojaji received the village of Vankadi and a third share in Ratanpur. After enjoying the *gadi* for a brief period of three years Patobhai died leaving an only son, Kheta-bhai, of the tender age of seven or eight. Taking advantage of his minority his cousins, the sons of Mepaji, laid down plans for the forcible seizure and partition of the Monpur Taluka. They paid a large *Nazarna* to the Gaekwadi officer at Amreli and secretly got a document executed in their favour to the extent of 7 annas in the rupee, in 1839. On the strength of this

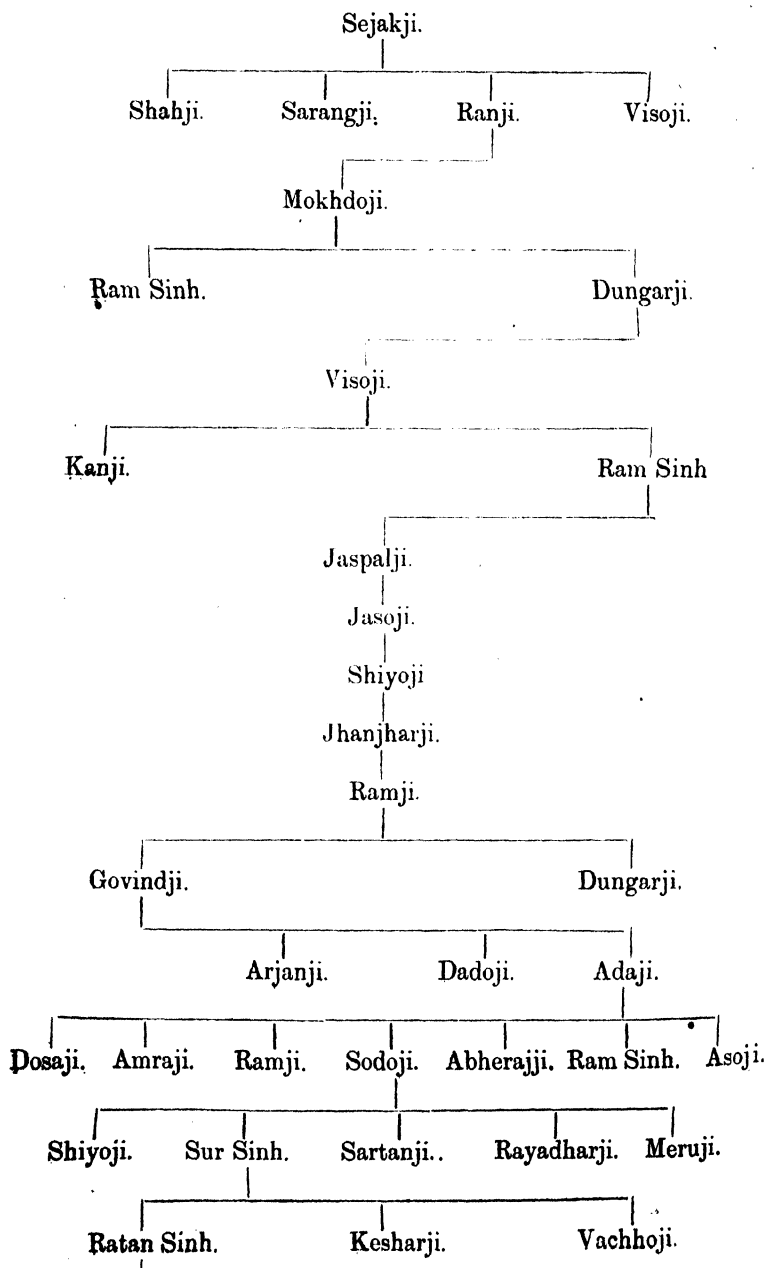
document plans were set a-foot for the recovery of the share; but as Khetabhai reached the years of discretion, he began to urge his objections in connection with their claims. These were scrutinized and examined on the old system that then obtained in the Gaekwad's Government. But when in 1876 civil courts were established, the sons of Melaji, Pratap Sinh, Lajibhai and Dip Sinh, filed a suit in the court of Amreli against Khetabhai for the recovery of the seven-anna share. The decision of the court went against Khetabhai, and an appeal has been filed in the Huzur Court before His Highness the Gaekwad; it is still lying undisposed of. But it is hoped that the parties will receive proper justice at the hands of His Highness by the reversal of a decision which has worked injustice and disregarded a long and uniform custom of impartibility which has received the sanction of no less than seventeen [generations of successions in the direct line of descent.

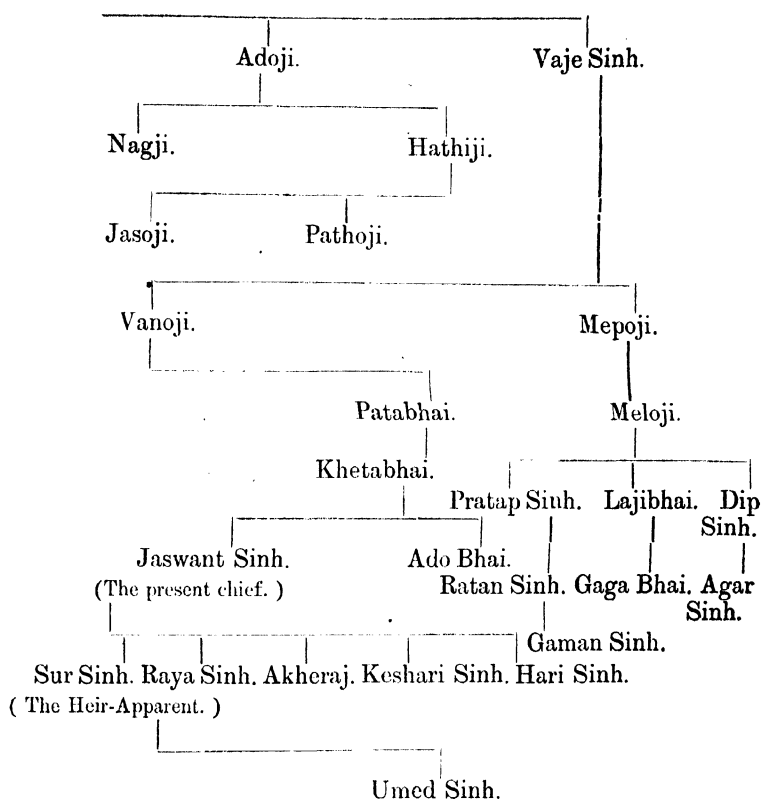
At the time when the Taluka passed into the hands of Patoji on the demise of Hathoji, it comprized the villages of Monpur, Shahpur, Navagam and Ratanpur, and besides these the Talukdars were entitled to the *chauths* of Bhijpura and Velavadar and several other villages. The *chauths* of Velavadar and other villages are recovered by the Bhavnagar State without any right, and so also is the *chauth* of Bhijpura by the Mahant of Bhinnath. The village of Sanes was mortgaged by Hathobhai with the Dewanis of Kala Talao who submortgaged it with the Thakore Saheb of Bhavnagar, and the State pays no attention to any claims for redemption thereof. The village of Moti Dhrai is mortgaged with the Vala State as a security for a very small amount of debt, and it is feared the Thakore Saheb of Vala too has an eye on the village.

Thus it will appear that the Monpur Talukdar being almost ruined by the costly litigation in connection with the above-mentioned claim of partition, has been prevented from urging his claim against these villages. In spite of all these difficulties, the Taluka is recovering its former prosperity.

under the diligent and careful management of Prince Jaswant Singhji.

Genealogical tree.





Residence.—Monpur, Amreli District ; Kathiawad.

MONWEL.

Area.—31 sq. miles. Population.—2,785.

Revenue.—33,000 rupees.

Valera and Raning, by caste Kathis of the Vala clan, are the present Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 312-15 is paid by them to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda. They have four independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them. Monwel is 9 miles south-west of the Manekwada Civil Station.

Residence.—Monwel, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

MORCHOPNA.

Area.—88 sq. miles. Population.—729.

Revenue.—7,100 rupees.

Harsar, by caste Ahir of the Kamalia clan, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 154 to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda and Rs. 9 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by him. Morchopna is 3 miles distant from Chok.

Residence.—Morchopna, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

MOTA BARKHERA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—5,303.

Revenue.—5,302 rupees.

The family with Bakht Sinh at its head came from Mandu. The Bhumia for whom engagements were mediated by Sir John Malcolm with the Dhar Darbar and Sindhia in 1820 was Hate Sinh, the great grandson of the Bhumia who first settled in Mota Barkhera. By virtue of the arrangement with the Dhar Darbar, the Bhumia holds seven villages in the Dharapuri *paragana* on a payment of Rs. 1,526 and three other villages on a permanent tenure. The original arrangement has been to a certain extent modified. The payment of *tankha* is made direct to the Dhar Darbar.

Similar arrangement is made with Sindhia to whom also the *tankha* is paid directly.

MINOR STATES.

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The Bhumiat was placed for a period of three years (from 1855-1858) under British supervision, on account of its increased indebtedness. Bharat Sinh is the present Bhumia of Mota Barkhera.

Residence.—Mota Barkhera, Bhopawar Agency ; Central India.

MOTA KOTHARNA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—672.

Revenue.—171 rupees.

Parbat Sinh, by caste Chauhan Koli, is the present Thakore. He pays no tribute to any higher authority. The Thakore is enlisted in the seventh class among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha, so he is empowered to inflict rigorous imprisonment for one month and a fine upto Rs. 50, while in civil matters he hears and decides suits to the amount of Rs. 250 only. The Thakore has received no *sanad* of adoption, but the succession is governed by the rule of primogeniture.

Residence.—Mota Kotharna, Mahi Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

MUDHOL.

Area.—361 sq. miles. Population.—61,815.

Revenue.—2,63,009 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the Jamkhandi State ; on the east by the Bagalkor sub-division ; on the south by the Bijapur and Belgaum Districts and the Kolhapur State ; and on the west by the Gokak sub-division of the Belgaum District.

The Chief of Mudhol is a scion of the Ghorpade branch of the Bhonsle family claiming, like all other families of distinction, to be originally descended from the same well known Kshatriya stock. The Modholkar, according to a family tradition, is said to have descended from a common ancestor with the celebrated Shivaji, the founder of the Maratha greatness. The original name of Bhonsle was superseded by that of Ghorpade, which is said to have been acquired by a member of the family, who sealed the walls of an impregnable fortress by fastening a rope round the body of a *ghorpad*. (ignana). There are two principal branches of this family,

the Sathkas and the Nankas, to the former of which belongs the Chief of Mudhol, while the latter is represented by the Senapati of Kapsi in Kolhapur. The celebrated Murari Rao of Gutti who, during the last century, played so important a part in the history of the Madras Presidency, was also a member of the Nanka branch of the Ghorpade family.

The *jagir* of Mudhol was originally conferred by the king of Bijapur on one of his most influential courtiers. Subsequently a king of the Adil Shahi dynasty, reigning at Bijapur, conferred on the *jagirdar* the hereditary title of *Raja* together with the privilege of using the 'Morachhal' and an exemption from 'Mujara' (obeisance) due from a subject to a sovereign.

When Shivaji commenced the work of laying the foundation of the great fabric which he subsequently built on the ruins of the Mussalman supremacy, the Sultan of Bijapur, Muhammad Adil Shah, sought the assistance of the Mudhol Chief in checkmating the further progress of the Maratha adventurer. In 1649 the Shah of Bijapur wrote to Baji Ghorpade of Mudhol to secure the person of Shahaji, the father of Shivaji, and send him as a hostage to the Bijapur Court. Both Baji and Shahaji were then engaged in the Karnatik and on the receipt of the royal mandate, Baji invited his colleague to a banquet at which he treacherously seized him and sent him to Bijapur. The Shah ordered him to exert his influence over his son and put a stop to his raids, but when Shahaji replied that his son would not be deterred by his orders or entreaties, he flew into a fit of passion and ordered Shahaji to be shut up in a stone dungeon, the door of which was wholly built up, except a small aperture, which too was threatened to be closed for ever in case his son did not submit within a fixed period. The dread of Shivaji's vengeance was, however, so great that the threat was not carried out and Shahaji was after a time released from captivity. He was kept under a strict surveillance for four years more at the end of which he was allowed to return to his *jagir* in the Karnatik. Before so doing he was bound down under a solemn engagement not to molest the Mudhol *jagirdar* with whom he was ordered to exchange his hereditary rights in token of mutual friendship. No such friendly exchange was, however, effected, and Shahaji charged his son, Shivaji, with all the filial love he bore to him, to wreak a deadly vengeance upon Baji Ghorpade. Shivaji bore this in mind and awaited an opportunity for ten long years. At last in 1661, Shivaji swooped down upon Mudhol

from his retreat at Vishalgarh, and killing Baji Ghorpade, burnt his capital and returned in triumph religiously carrying out the wishes of his disgraced father.

Baji was after his death succeeded by Maloji I. who in 1686 was confirmed in his possessions by the great Emperor Aurangzeb. For the next three generations nothing worth recording seems to have occurred in the annals of this State, till we come to the reign of Maloji II., the great grand-son of Baji's successor Maloji I. This Maloji II. is said to have lived to such an old age that he figured conspicuously in all the important events which happened during the reigns of all the Peshwas—from Balaji Vishwanath down to Baji Rao II. 'He served against the Mysore princes, against the English in the campaign which resulted in the campaign of Vadagam, against the Nizam in the battle of Kharda, and against Holkar' till his long, active and eventful life came to an end in 1805. After his death, his son Narayan Rao occupied the *gadi*, who died in 1816, leaving behind him three sons Gowind Rao, Lakshaman Rao and Venkat Rao. The eldest Gowind Rao claimed the *gadi* by right of primogeniture, but was opposed by Venkat Rao's mother who referred the dispute to the Peshwa's decision. The intriguing lady seems to have bribed the authorities at the Poona Court and Venkat Rao was duly recognised as his father's successor. Gowind Rao and Lakshaman Rao were provided with suitable posts in the army of Bapu Gokhale, and the two brothers followed the fortunes of the Peshwa in the war with the English which broke out in 1817. Gowind Rao was said to have been killed in the battle of Ashta, while Lakshaman Rao on the fall of the Peshwa's government went to Baroda and accepted service under the Gaekwad. Venkat Rao was thus left in undisturbed possession of Mudhol, and a treaty was concluded between him and the British Government under which he was required to furnish a contingent of 20 horse whenever required to do so by the Supreme Government. This service was, however, commuted in 1848 to an annual cash payment of Rs. 2671-7-8.

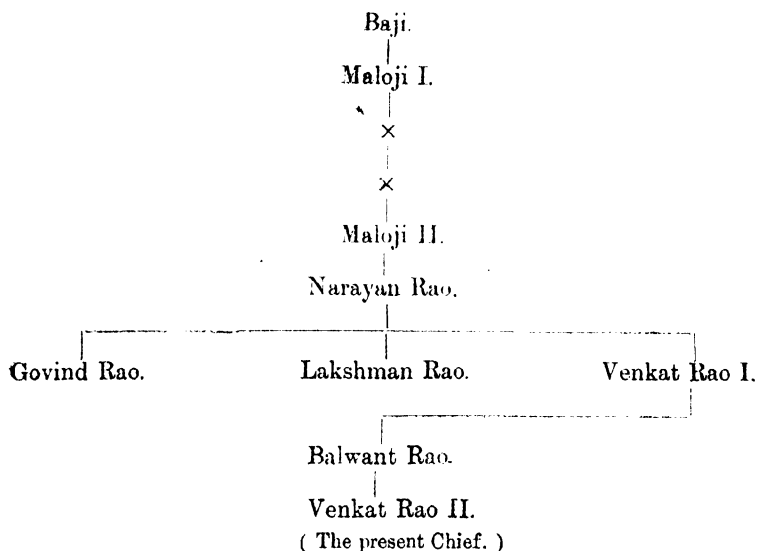
A few years later on Mr. Elphinstone, the then Governor of Bombay, received an astounding communication purporting to come from Gowind Rao who was supposed to have fallen in the battle of Ashta. The writer asserted that he was Venkat Rao's brother, Govind Rao, that he was not actually killed in the battle but had received a mortal wound from which he had recovered, and that he had spent so many years in visiting the

principal sacred shrines all over the country. The widow of Gowind Rao identified him to be her husband who was supposed to have died long ago, and went and lived with him. Even Venkat Rao could not positively say that he was not Gowind Rao. Everything went to lend support to his pretensions, when after a prolonged and careful investigation it was ascertained that the claimant was not Govind Rao but a mere impostor. This Maratha Tichborn* was a Gosawi whose remarkable resemblance with the deceased Gowind Rao was pointed out to him by the latter's sister at Baroda.

Venkat Rao died in 1856; leaving a son named Balwant Rao, aged 13 years, to succeed him to the *gadi*. During his minority, the State was administered by a Diwan appointed by Government and acting under the immediate control of the Political Agent. Several important reforms were carried out during the period of British administration, and all debts were paid off. So when the sole management of the State was entrusted to the young Chief in 1861, he found his estate in a flourishing condition and his treasury replenished with the surplus left after payment of debts. The promising career of the Chief was cut short by his premature death in 1862. He left behind him two children—an infant son, aged one year, named Venkat Rao and a daughter who was married to a nephew of the Maharaja of Kolhapur, who afterwards became by adoption the Chief of Kagal. The Rani dowager claimed to carry on the government on behalf of her infant son, but the Supreme Government decided to entrust the management to the *Karbhari* and the Munsiff, who were instructed to consult the wishes of the dowager Rani in all important matters and accede to her legitimate desires, but who were held responsible for all their actions directly to the British Government. This arrangement proved eminently successful, and the estate prospered under the fostering care of the officers deputed to carry on the work of administration. The lands have been properly surveyed and assessed, large sums have been spent on works of public utility, and much has been done to further the spread of education throughout the State. The treasury is full, and the subjects are happy. It was in such a flourishing condition that the estate was restored to Venkat Rao on his attaining the age of majority in the year 1882. He has been granted a *sanad* conferring on him the right of adoption and is a first class Sirdar in the Southern Maratha Country.

* The impostor was detected from the circumstance that he was utterly ignorant of the Kanarese, which Govind Rao used to speak fluently.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Mudhol, Southern Maratha Country ; Bombay Presidency.

MUJPUR.

Area.—3 sq. miles. Population.—548.

Revenue.—3,225 rupees.

Raghabhai, Devi Sinh and Punjabhai, by caste Parmar Rajputs, are the present Talukdars. They pay Rs. 603 to the British Government, as a tribute. The Talukdars have one independent tribute-payer. No civil and criminal powers are granted to them. Mujpur is 3 miles south-west of the Wadhvan city Railway Station.

Residence.—Mujpur, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

MULI.

Area.—134 sq. miles. Population.—16,763.

Revenue.—1,00,000 rupees.

The rulers of Muli are Rajputs of the Sodha Parmar race. The Parmars arrived in this peninsula under the leadership of Lagadhirji between the years 1470 and 1475. They first proceeded from Tharparkar to Than and Chotila, and were afterwards permitted by Visaldev, the then Vaghela sovereign of Wadhwan, to settle on the banks of the Bhogawo where Muli at present stands. Rajputs of the Chabad race, who were closely connected with the Chief of Wadhwan, then held paramount power at Sayala. They saw the danger of allowing the powerful clan of Parmars to settle in their vicinity and were waiting for some pretext to open hostilities with them. It was not however long before they could hit upon a suitable excuse. While hunting abroad a wounded partridge escaped from their hands and sought refuge in the lap of the mother of Lagadhirji. When called upon to give up the wounded bird the spirited woman refused to hand over one who had sought her protection. The Chabads pressed their demand, when they were told that a lamb might be given instead, but as for the bird they would not part with it so long as their heads stood erect on their shoulders. At length the Parmars proposed to give a daughter of one of their leaders, Mugoji, in marriage to one of the Chabad leaders, but bent on war, they refused to comply with that concession also. Then did the Parmars observe that the object of the Chabads was nothing else but to make out a *causa belle* and they readily laid their hands on their swords to give them battle. In the fierce conflict which followed, one hundred and forty Parmars and five hundred Chabads perished. The stanza below runs thus:—

Five hundred Chabads fell, and so were Sodhas' seven scores destroyed
For the sake of a paltry partridge, may the Almighty keep their memory
fresh. *

At the time when the conflict took place, Lagadhirji, the leader of the Parmars, had gone to Wadhwan where the intelligence of this sad

-
- *Padyā Chabado panchae, Sodha viso sat,
Eka tetarne karane, ala rakhe akhyat.*

(Five hundred Chabads fell, and Sodha seven times twenty; for the sake of one partridge they perpetuated their name.)

occurrence was brought to him while sitting near Visaldev at his court. All the circumstances were communicated to him in full details which he laid before Visal Dev. He told the Parmar Chief to fear nothing and consoled him for the heavy loss. Meanwhile, the Chabad queen of Visal Dev, who was the sister of the Chief of Sayala, sent her attendant to her husband to report the woeful tale with a suggestion that as Lagadhirji was then present in the *Kacheri*, his life should be forfeited. Visal Dev, however, true to his word, permitted him to retire to Muli in safety.

Thus failing in her object, the Chabad queen did not give up her attempt to influence her husband in favour of her kinsmen and devise the destruction of the Parmars. She at last succeeded in extorting a promise from him that he would carry out her wishes. Visal Dev however thought it discreditable to break openly with those whom he had once promised security, and he directed them to subdue the two powerful Bhils Acao and Fatio who had built strongholds in the deep ravines of the river Mahi, and were plundering the territories of the Vaghelas. The Parmars attacked and demolished their fortifications, killed them, and returned with flying colours. As what was meant for their destruction brought them victory, the Raja rewarded their gallantry by the grant of four *paragnas*, Muli, Than, Chobari and Chotila, each consisting of twenty-four villages.

Lagadhirji had two sons Ramoji and Dadoji of whom the former ascended the throne and to the latter Gadhada and other villages were assigned in *giras*. Ramoji had two sons of whom Bhojrajji the elder came to the throne on his father's death, and Sujoji received in appanage Mudhol and other villages. Samat Sinhji, who was the successor of Bhoj Raj, had also two sons, Lagadhirji II. who occupied the *gadi*, while his brother Haloji carried on the government.

In the name of honour and chivalry what horrible deeds were perpetrated by the Rajputs of old, is best exemplified by the following episode. The head of the Jat community of Sindh had a handsome daughter, Sumaribai, the veritable Helen of Sindh. The ruling monarch wanted her to gratify his beastly passion, whereupon 700 Jats leaving their home-steads set out on the way to Cutch. As Cutch afforded them no shelter, they came at last to Muli to seek the protection of the brave Parmar Chiefs Lagadhirji and Haloji. The Parmars, when they saw that the Jats were hotly pursued by their tyrannical Padshah, and that he could not be successfully resisted

without raising strong fortifications, they retired into the thickets, of the hills surrounding Mandavadar, twenty miles to the west of Muli. The troops of the enemy came up and several desultory actions followed which were mostly indecisive. At last when Lagadhirji apprehended that the enemy would succeed in gaining his object, he fled away, taking Sumaribai with him. The Padshah overtook them near Vanoda and was on the point of capturing his fair prize, when Sumaribai in her embarrassment hit upon a mode of relief which though wanting in humanity had at best the merit of preserving from outrage the most dearly cherished of female sentiments. She preferred to be buried alive to falling into the hands of the brutal ravisher. The cenotaph standing there still keeps her memory as fresh and green as ever. The Sindh troops being thus baffled grew exasperated and seized Haloji. They carried him away to their province. Lagadhirji lost no time in obtaining assistance from Mahomud Beghdo of Ahmedabad, and proceeding to Cutch he overtook the returning troops. A scuffle ensued in which he was victorious and his brother rescued. Haloji on his return embraced the Islam faith for which act of apostacy he was rewarded by the grant of the Ranpur *paragna*. His brother was similarly rewarded by the grant of Botad with its twenty villages. Afterwards one of his descendants removed to Dholka in 1730, and his descendants are still known as the Dholka Kasbatis.

Lagadhirji's reign was signalized by another noteworthy event which terminated his life. A Bori Moghal chieftain, absconding with a Brahman's daughter, Lagadhirji pursued him to bring the girl back to her pining parents, but in the encounter lives of both the rival chiefs were lost. It is said that the Brahman's girl mounted the funeral pyre with the corpse of her preserver in her lap.

Lagadhirji had three sons, Bhojrাজी II. who succeeded him, while Satoji and Visoji obtained rich *giras*. Chochoji, the successor of Bhojrাজी II., was treacherously assassinated while engaged in worshipping the deity, Mahadev, at Jalia, by Bachoji of Sejakpur. His queen Jamba burnt herself alive with the dead body of her husband, and the stone which is to be seen on the spot reminds the successive generations of the horrible death which a true Rajputani courted for the beatitude of her departed lord.

Of the two sons of Chochoji, the elder Ratanji ascended the *gadi*, while the younger Ramoji received a suitable fief. In his time Ameer Khan's troops came to raise tributes in Jhalawad. When Ratanji was

called upon to pay his share, he declared his inability to satisfy Amir Khan's demand, saying that his principality had suffered from the ravages of war. The Ghori stationed a military post at Muli and laid his hands on the revenues of the State. This interference drove Ratanji to fly into outlawry against the officer in command of the garrison; but at last he was seized and beheaded. To avenge the murder of his friend, one Jaleo Jhalo attacked the officer and slew him, but in the attempt the brave Jhalo too lost his life. During this period of anarchy the Kathis first seized Than and then Chotila and Chobarlo.

The successors of Ratanji on the throne of Muli were Karanji, Jagadevji, Ram Sinhji, Ratanji II., Kalian Sinhji, Muloji, Ratanji III and Kalian Sinhji II., the last of whom was more generally known by the name of Bapaji.

Ramobhai who succeeded KalyanSinh II., was on the throne when Colonel Walker carried on in 1807-8 his inquiries relating to the tributes paid by the Kathiawad Chiefs. On his death Vakhat Sinhji mounted the *gadi*, but as he died without any issue he was succeeded by his brother Sartanji, the late Thakore of Muli. He died on the 2nd June 1894 leaving behind him two minor sons, Himat Sinhji and Shiv Sinhji, the eldest of whom succeeded him. Owing to his minority the State is under British management. A Manager is appointed by the British Government to look after its affairs. Himat Sinhji and Shiv Sinhji are studying at the Rajkote Rajkumar College and the Wadhwan *Girasias'* School respectively.

Muli is a fourth class State in Kathiawad, and as such its rulers are invested with criminal powers of inflicting three years' rigorous imprisonment with a fine of Rs. 5,000, and in civil matters of disposing of cases of the value of Rs. 10,000.

Residence.—Muli, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

MULILA DERI.

Area.—15 sq. miles. Population.—2,510.

Revenue.—14,000 rupees.

Hathibhai and Gorakhji, by caste Jadeja Rajputs, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 1,279 to the British Government

and Rs. 175 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have 7 independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them. Mulila Deri is 7 miles to the west of Lodhika.

Residence.—Mulila Deri, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

MULTHAN.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—10,635.

Revenue.—60,000 rupees.

The late Thakore Pawar Sinh died in 1849 and his son Dalpat Sinh, who is the present Thakore, succeeded him. In pursuance of the settlement effected in 1818 the Thakore has to pay directly to the Dhar State an annual sum of Rs. 18,044 (Hali).

Residence.—Multhan, Bhopal Agency ; Central India.

NAHARA.

Area.—1½ sq. miles. Population.—425.

Revenue.—188 rupees.

Jaya Sinh and Kalyan Sinh, Bariyas by caste, are the present Thakores. The ancestors of the Thakores of Nahara were relations of the Thakore of Sihora, from whom this *Taluka* was received in appanage by the ancestors of the present Thakores. A tribute of Rs. 25 is paid by them to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them.

Residence.—Nahara, Rewa Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

NAIGAON RIBAI.

Area.—16 sq. miles. Population.—3,370.

Revenue.—10,375 rupees.

This estate was bestowed on Lakshman Sinh the notorious banditti leader of Bundelkhand in consideration of his returning to a settled and peaceful life in 1807. He died the next year. His son Jagat Sinh was allowed to

continue in possession of the villages, but it was later on discovered that the grant to his father was for his life only; he however was not dispossessed of his estate. The right of adoption was conceded to the *Jagirdar* and consequently on his death in 1867, the succession of his widow *Larai Dhulia*, who was then 26 years old, was recognized by the Government.

Residence.—Naigaon Ribai, Bundelkhand; Central India.

NALIA.

Area.— $\frac{1}{2}$ sq. mile. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—547 rupees.

Alam Khan and Khusal Bawa, by caste Ghorī Mussalman, are the present Thakores. They pay Rs. 37 to H. H. the Gaekwad through the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha. No civil and criminal powers are granted to them.

Residence.—Nalia, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

NANDGAON.

Area.—871 sq. miles. Population.—1,83,866.

Revenue.—2,23,318 rupees.

The chiefship of Nandgaon was originally conferred by Raghoji Bhonsle on a family priest named Mahant Ram Das in 1723. Life-long celibacy being an avowed observance of the sect to which Ram Das belonged, succession to the estate was for several years regulated by adoption. The strict observance of the vow of celibacy became by degrees slack, and in the family of the Mahant especially it is honored more in the breach than in the observance. Ghasi Das, the late Chief, was himself a married man and had got his son and heir married at a comparatively early age during his own life-time. He, however, represented the matter to the Government of India and was informed in reply that the performance of marriage would in no way invalidate the succession of his legitimate heir. Ghasi Das received a *Sanad* of adoption in 1865 after which he executed a deed owning fealty to the British *Raj*. Ghasi Das ceded to the British Government on the 2nd July 1883 certain lands with civil and criminal jurisdiction thereon, which were required for the construction of the Nagpur and Chhatisgarh State Railway.

After this he died in November 1883 and was succeeded by his son Balram Das, who was born in 1866. During his nonage the management of affairs remained in the hands of his mother aided by a Dewan. In the Jubilee year of H. M. Queen Victoria's reign (1887) the title of Raja was conferred on the young Chief as a personal distinction. In 1888 serious complaints about the remissness of the Police and the general incapacity of the Dewan, Gowind Rao, were brought to the notice of the Supreme Government, whereupon the conduct of administration was transferred from the Dewan to a special officer of the rank of Extra Assistant Commissioner who was to remain in power as long as the young Chief should be found competent to properly carry on his own affairs. At last Raja Balram Das was invested with full powers of administration in August 1891.

In 1891 Raja Balram Das further ceded on the same terms as before certain more lands required for the purposes of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway.

Residence.—Nandgaon, Raipur ; Central Provinces.

NANGAM.

Area.—1½ sq. miles. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—2,247 rupees.

Nathu Khan, Kalu Bawa, Sardar Khan, and Sada Bawa, by caste Molesalam Girasias, are the present Thakores. A tribute of Rs. 1,294 is paid by them to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda through the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them.

Residence.—Nangam, Rewa Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

NANGAON.

The present Thakore of Nangaon, Zalim Sinh, is a Jardon Rajput and is the son of Thakore Bharat Sinh with whom the settlement was mediated. He receives Rs. 114 as his *tankha* from Sindhia and holds extensive lands in *jagir* in the three villages of Sindhia, i. e. Nangaon, Harnakheri and Datana.

NARSINGHPUR.

Area.—199 sq. miles. Population.—33,849,

Revenue.—34,795 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by a range of forest-clad mountains, which separate it from Angul and Hindol; on the east by Baramba; on the south and south-west by the Mahanadi river; and on the west by Angul.

The founder of the chiefship was one Dharma Raja, who put to flight the aboriginal headman and began to rule in his own name. Twenty-three generations of Rajas have succeeded him on his *gadi*. Since the last nine generations, each Chief on his accession to the *gadi* has assumed the title of 'Man Sinh Harichandar Mahapatra' and the hereditary title of Raja which has been formally confirmed by the British Government. The present Chief Raja Sadhu Charan succeeded to the *gadi* in 1884 as a minor. During his minority the State is placed under British management. The Chief pays a tribute of Rs. 1,455-8-3 to the British Government.

Residence.—Narsinghpur, Orissa; Bengal.

NARUKOT.

Area.—47.8 sq. miles. Population.—6,500.

Revenue.—11,494 rupees.

In olden times, Narukot was known as Tokalpur; and its rulers bore a character for turbulence and free-booting. The Nayakdas by whom the State and its neighbouring *jungles* are for the most part inhabited, now and then rose against their rulers and made them captives. To protect himself from the onslaughts of these barbarians, Thakore Jagat Sinhji sought the support of His Highness the Gaekwad in 1833, and agreed in writing to assign to him half the revenues of the State. The Gaekwad undertook to preserve order by placing a military guard, and to try his best to protect both the people and the Thakore from their barbarous neighbours. In pursuance of this agreement the State was placed under the direct control of the Sankheda Kumavisdar, and the military post was stationed at Jambugoda. Within a short period, however, the reprehensible conduct of the Gaekwadi officials provoked an insurrection of the Nayakdas, who laid waste the whole of the neighbouring country. This led the Baria Thakore to,

cancel his agreement with the government of the Gaekwad, and to apply almost in the same terms to the British Government for protection. The State was thereupon placed under the charge of the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha in 1838. Only with a few alterations the agreement with the British Government was drawn up in the same terms as the one which on a previous occasion was passed to the Gaekwad. The whole administration was left in the hands of the British Government. Under their fostering care the State has regained its prosperity and has progressed in every direction.

In 1861 the Government of Sindhia transferred to the Paramount Power its territories of Pavaghar and the Punch Mahals. The small State of Narukot being in the vicinity of a sub-district of the Punch Mahals, and the British Government being entitled to collect its revenues and exercise sole jurisdiction thereon, it was annexed to Kalol. Thenceforward Narukot passed from the control of the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha to that of the Collector of the Punch Mahals.

In 1868, one Nayak Joria Vadak residing at Narukot, gave out that he was an incarnation of the god, Vishnu, and the poor credulous Nayakdas flocked to him and worshipped him. Joria roused their spirits, by enkindling within them the flame of religious enthusiasm. He was joined by the well-known Rup Sinh Gabar of Dandiapur. They assembled together in large numbers and seemed determined in the madness of their zeal and ignorance to uproot the British Raj and set up theirs instead. They at first plundered the military stations at Jambugoda and several other places; burnt several hamlets and killed those who resisted or fell into their hands. The whole neighbourhood was thrown into consternation, but before the disaffection could spread over a larger area, William Henry Probert, Agent to the Governor for the Panch Mahals, at once proceeded with a small force to the scene of disturbance, and put himself in communication with the Military authorities asking for further help. On being reinforced, Mr. Probert attacked the Nayakdas who had assembled in large numbers near Vadak. Here the military had to fire on them and the latter warily received their fire with showers of arrows. After the loss of a few lives on both sides, the Nayakdas were dispersed. Their leaders Rup Sinh and Joria fled away into the interior of the province.

Shortly after this, they with their companions were captured. A trial was held before which they stood charged with several heinous offences. Some of the culprits were hanged, one was transported for life

and others were punished with imprisonment. Thus was the rising quelled and peace restored, which has never since been again disturbed upto the present day.

After the rising of the Nayakdas, an officer of the rank of Mahalkari was appointed at Jambugoda who, for the better management of the State, was invested with certain civil, criminal and revenue powers. A well-equipped police force, a small military party and a few mounted Sawars were placed at his disposal. A small fortification has been erected there for defensive purposes.

The present Chief of Narukot is a Baria Thakor named Dip Sinhji; but the administration is conducted by a Mahalkari under the supervision of the Political Agent. Half the revenues of the estate is yearly remitted to the Thakore by the British Government.

Residence.—Jotvar, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

NARWAR.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—1,925.

Revenue.—15,400 rupees.

The Raos of Narwar are Rajputs of the Jhala race. They were related to the Raj Saheb of Dhrangadra in Kathiawad, in remote times. The Jhala Rajputs claim their descent from the Makwanas of the Solar race who traced their lineage as far back as the wise sage of ancient times Rishi Markandeya. Maharaja Chhatra Sal, an ancestor of the Raj Saheb of Dhrangadra, died in 1420, leaving twelve sons behind him. Of them the eldest, the heir-apparent Jet Sinh, ascended the *gadi* of Dhrangadra in Kathiawad, while the second, Raghav Devji, obtained Vithalgarh, Batugam and other villages in *jagir*, for himself. Raghav Devji was, however, an easy-going chief, and in a moment of intoxication he gave over his entire *jagir* in gift to a Brahmin. He then repaired to his brothers for his own subsistence; but they in their turn sent him over, in the company of several retainers, to serve the Emperor of Delhi at his court. There were great many dissensions at Delhi, at this period; consequently they returned to Malwa and took up their abode at a village, of the name of Agar. Here Raghav Devji joined the service of Sultan Hushang Ghory of Bhandu where he so distinguished himself that the Sultan was pleased to give him

Agar and seven other villages in gift, and he was made a chief of this little domain. He left behind him two sons, Chandaji and Kahan Sinh, of whom the elder, Chandaji, ascended the *gadi* of Agar. He, however, soon incurred the displeasure of the Sultan of Bhandu, and had to fly from Agar and seek for shelter in the villages of Ambe and Kalalp. At the latter place he died, and was succeeded by his son, Ram Sinh. The Sultan in recognition of the valuable service rendered by Raghav Devji, summoned Ram Sinh to his court; accordingly he, with his uncle Kahan Sinh, repaired to Bhandu, where they entered the service of the Sultan. Subsequently, when the Shah of Gujarat led an invasion against the Sultan of Malwa, the two Rajput chiefs valiantly fought on the side of the Sultan with great loyalty and devotion. On one occasion they even saved the life of the Sultan from imminent peril, when he was hard pressed by his enemies. The grateful Sultan rewarded their services by a grant of the districts, of Raipur, with 175 other villages, to Ram Sinh, and of Narwar, with 84 villages, to Kahan Sinh. The Moslem Sardars had also grown jealous of the influence of the two Rajputs with the Sultan; consequently this measure also served the purpose of removing the two aliens from the sphere of their malignant envy. Kahan Sinh set up his capital at Narwar in 1394, and, in course of time, was succeeded on the *gadi* by Harnath Sinh, Chandaji II., Salam Sinh, Ratan Sinh, Asakaran, Waghkaran, Bharat Sinh, Dungan Sinh, Samant Sinh, Lurnakaran, Badan Sinh, Pahaul Sinh and Rao Chhatra Sal.

Chhatra Sal had to wage war against his own feudatories in which he came out with triumph. He was succeeded by Hamir Sinh, Prithi Sinh, Rao Patal, Bishen Sinh and Rao Asakaran II. The last-named Chief served the Emperor Aurangzeb with unparalleled devotion and loyalty, and though only ten years old, fought with great courage on the Imperial side against the Rajas of Jodhpur and Ratlam. He was succeeded by Man Sinh who was chiefly engaged during his rule in hostilities with his wife's brother—the Chauhan ruler of Barda. Success remained with Man Sinh, who did not, however, long survive the victory; he died of a fatal wound received during the fight. After him the *gadi* was successively occupied by Jasant Sinh, Tej Sinh, Mahokam Sinh, Hari Sinh, Ratan Sinh, and Raghunath Sinh. Raghunath Sinh subdued many adjacent territories, and by his plunders succeeded in exacting tribute from several neighbouring chiefs. Subsequently the combined troops of Sindhia, Holkar and Poar interfered on behalf of these chiefs and prevented any tri-

bute being paid to the Rao of Narwar. Raghunath Sinh, thereupon, laid waste the country and excessively harassed the poor subjects of the three great Maratha rulers. Sindhia with his allies laid siege to the fort of Narwar and compelled Raghunath Sinh to take to his heels; but the brave Rajput did not desist from devastating their realms and giving them excessive trouble. Upon this, Sindhia and Holkar had to restore the possession of Narwar to its Chief. Raghunath Sinh was succeeded by Achal Sinh, Lakshman Sinh and Hamir Sinh. Under the benign rule of the last-named Chief many good works of public utility were executed. It was also during the rule of this Chief that several boundary disputes, which subsisted between him and Maharaja Sindhia, were amicably settled, through the intercession of the British Government. Hamir Sinh expired in 1883, and was succeeded on the *gadi* by his eldest son Raghunath Sinh II, who is the present ruling Chief of Narwar.

Rao Raghunath Sinh possesses a very liberal mind. He has vindicated his claims to liberal and broad-minded statesmanship by remitting in full all the arrears of revenues due from his subjects since the time of his father. His intelligence is of a very high order and he manages every detail of the administration with his own hands. He keeps himself aloof from every bad habit and never touches opium or other drink of any kind. The State is, on the whole, very prosperous and the management of its affairs extremely satisfactory.

Residence.—Narwar, Western Malwa Agency; Central India.

NASWADI.

Area.—8 sq. miles. Population.—3,907.

Revenue.—8,195 rupees.

Man Sinh, by caste Solanki Rajput, is the present Thakore. He pays Rs. 1,691 to the Gaekwad of Baroda as a tribute. The Thakore is still minor and the management of the State is under the Thandar of the Sankheda Mewas. The Thakore is studying at the Talukdari *Girassia* School at Vajiria. He enjoys criminal powers of inflicting rigorous imprisonment for one month and fine upto Rs. 50. No civil powers are granted to him.

Residence.—Naswadi, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

NAULANA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—407

Revenue.—5,300 rupees.

The Thakores of Naulana are Khichi Rajputs and are the descendants in the junior line of the Raghugarh family.

By virtue of the settlement mediated with Thakore Hate Sinh they receive *tankhas* to the amount of Rs. 3,220 from Sindhia and Holkar. They hold certain *jagir* lands under Holkar and are entitled to certain dues on a village in the Dipalpur *paragna*. Padam Sinh, a younger brother of Hate Sinh, succeeded him; who in his turn was succeeded by his son Raj Sinh. He died in 1873 and the succeeding Thakore Bhagat Sinh died in 1884. Prithi Sinh the son and heir of the deceased is the present Thakore of Naulana.

Residence.—Naulana, Western Malwa Agency; Central India.

NAYAGARH.

Area.—588 sq. miles. Population.—1,17,862.

Revenue.—63,220 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by Khandpara State; on the east by Ranpur State; on the south by Puri District; and on the west by the Daspalla State and the Madras District of Ganjam.

This State was founded by Surjija Mani Sinh, a scion of the Rajput royal house of Rewah. Twenty-two generations of Rajas have succeeded him. The Rajas of Puri have at different times conferred on the family the title of 'Mangraj' and 'Mandhata.' The late Raja Sadhu Kishor Sinh succeeded to the *gadi* in 1851. The present Raja Raghunath Sinh Hari Chandar sat on the *gadi* in 1890. He pays Rs. 5,525-4-1 to the British Government as a tribute.

Residence.—Nayagarh, Orissa; Bengal.

NILGIRI.

Area.—278 sq. miles. Population.—56,198.

Revenue.—45,595 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north and west by the State of Morbhanj; and on the east and south by the Balasor District.

The State was founded in the fifteenth century by Narayan Sinh Bhujang Madhata Biret Basant Hari Chander a scion of the royal house of Chhota Nagpur who married the daughter of Raja Pratap Rudra Dev of Orissa. The family have borne the titles of Mardraj Hari Chandar and of Raja. Twenty-five generations of Raja have ascended the throne. The present Raja Krishna Chandra succeeded to the *gadi* in 1832. The family title of Raja was formally recognized by Government in 1874. He pays a tribute of Rs. 3,900-7-8 to the British Government.

Residence.—Nilgiri, Orissa ; Bengal.

NILVALA.

Area.—2 sq. miles. Population.—512.

Revenue.—3,000 rupees.

Mulu, by caste Kathi of the Khachar clan, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 465 to the British Government and Rs. 154 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdar has 2 independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are granted to him. Nilvala is $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the north of Babra.

Residence.—Nilvala, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

NIMKHERA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—5,569.

Revenue.—18,000 rupees.

The Bhumias of Nimkhera are Bhilalas by descent whose ancestors are said to have come from Marwad.

They hold the village of Tirla in hereditary succession and have to pay a *tankha* of Rs. 500 (Hali) to the Dhar Darbar to whom they are responsible for robberies committed within their holding. The *paragna* of Hindola is held by them by virtue of their ancient undisturbed possession free of any payment for the same.

Sheo Sinh was the Bhumia of Nimkhera at the time of the British mediation. His successors were Bhim Sinh and Kanak Sinh. The adoption of Dariya Sinh by the latter was sanctioned by Government in 1863, and in

the next year Kanak Sinh died without direct lineal descendant. Consequently Dariya Sinh, his adopted son, succeeded him, and he is the present Bhumia of Nimkhera.

Residence.—Nimkhera, Bhopawar Agency ; Central India.

PACHHEGAM.

Area.—10 sq. miles. Population.—3,655.

Revenue.—23,600 rupees.

This State was received in appanage by Devoji, the son of Sartanji, the then Thakore of Bhavnagar. His descendants, Devoji and Haloji, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 2,123 to the Gaekwad of Baroda and Rs. 679 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have two independent tribute-payers. Neither civil nor criminal powers are enjoyed by them. Pachhegam is 2 miles distant from Vala.

Residence.—Pachhegam, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

PAH.

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—300.

Revenue.—2,550 rupees.

Baghji and Jiwabhai, Sarvaiya Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 307 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and Rs. 12 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have two independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them. Pah is 9 miles distant from Chok.

Residence.—Pah, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

PAL.

Area.—21 sq. miles. Population.—1,214.

Revenue.—8,000 rupees.

This State was received as an appanage by Harbhamji, the fourth son of the then ruling Thakore Meheramanji of Rajkot. Ratan Sinh, his

descendant, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 1,255 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and Rs. 394 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. He is enlisted in the fifth class among the chiefs of Kathiawad, so he enjoys criminal powers of inflicting rigorous imprisonment for two years and fine upto Rs. 2,000, while in civil cases he hears and decides suits to the amount of Rs. 5,000. Pal is 7 miles south-west from the Rajkot Railway Station.

Residence.—Pal, Kathiawad : Bombay Presidency.

PALAJ.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—1,586.

Revenue.—8,020 rupees.

Daulat Sinh, by caste Makwana Koli, is the present Thakore. He succeeded to the *gadi* after the death of his father Ram Sinh in 1885. A tribute of Rs. 399-3-7 is paid by him to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda. The Thakore is enlisted in the seventh class among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha, so he is empowered to inflict punishment for one month with hard labour and fine upto Rs. 50. In civil cases he hears and decides suits to the value of Rs. 250 only.

Residence.—Palaj, Mahi Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

PALALI.

Area.—4 sq. miles. Population.—679.

Revenue.—48,00 rupees.

Ratan Sinh and Khengarji, Jhala Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 357 to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda and Rs. 46 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have two independent tribute-payers. Neither civil nor criminal powers are enjoyed by the Talukdars. Palali is 20 miles to the east of the Wadhwan city.

Residence.—Palali, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

PALASNI.

Area.— $5\frac{1}{2}$ sq. miles. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—6,473 rupees.

Jit Sinh, by caste Parmar Rajput, is the present Thakore. A tribute of Rs. 2,131 is paid by him to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda through the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha. He enjoys neither civil nor criminal powers.

Residence.—Palasni, Rewa Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

PALIAD.

Area.—85 sq. miles. Population.—9,662.

Revenue.—6,600 rupees.

Paliad was formerly in the possession of the rulers of Sarva, which was the original residence of Sarvaiya Rajputs. Sarva with Paliad was conquered in 1710 by Kala Khachar, who was the great grandson of Thoba Khachar from whom his descendants began to be known by the appellation of 'Thobani.' There are 7 share-holders in Paliad whose names are Harsar, Amra, Oghad, Bhan, Danabhai, Lakhman, and Mansur. They pay a tribute of Rs. 907 to the British Government and Rs. 366 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have 7 independent tribute-payers. Harsur, the principal share-holder, is in the sixth class, so he is empowered to inflict rigorous imprisonment for 3 months and fine upto Rs. 200, while in civil cases he is competent to hear and decide suits to the value of Rs. 500. The other share-holders have no jurisdiction. Paliad is 8 miles to the west of the Kundli Railway Station.

Residence.—Paliad, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

PAL LAHARA.

Area.—452 sq. miles. Population.—14,887.

Revenue.—1,200 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the State of Bonai, on the east by Keunjhar ; on the south by Talcher and on the west by Bamra. The ancestor of the ruling Kshatrya family was Raya Rantosh Pal *alias*

Pat Ganeshwar Pal. The titles of Pat Ganeshwar Pal and Pat Manik Pal have been regularly assumed alternately by each of the twenty-two generations of Rajas who have ascended the *gadi*. The State occupies a position subordinate to the chief of Keunjhar and pays an annual quit-rent. Family disputes led to the first interference of Keunjhar State in 1778, and in spite of many attempts to throw off its supremacy it has never been allowed to let off its firm grip. Finally an appeal was made to the Political Agent of the South-west Provinces, who decided against the State. In 1840, however, the right of interference in the internal affairs was put a stop to, and the tribute payable was arranged to be paid through the Superintendent, Tributary Mahals. A claim on the part of Keunjhar to raise the amount of the tribute was disallowed in 1880.

As the present Chief is but a child of eleven, the State is placed in charge of the Superintendent.

Residence.—Pal Lahara, Orissa Tributary Mahals; Bengal,

PANCHAVDA.

Area.—78 sq. miles. Population.—441.

Revenue.—1,500 rupees.

Moti Bhai, Gohal Rajput by caste, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 204 to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda and Rs. 37 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. No civil and criminal powers are granted to him. Panchavda is 2 miles to the south of the Songarh Station.

Residence.—Panchavda, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

PANDU.

Area.—9½ sq. miles. Population.—2,100.

Revenue.—7,440 rupees.

Pandu was once a great city, but with the downfall of Champaner in 1484, its greatness passed away. The *Taluka* now belongs to Khanjadas. Their ancestors received it with the title of Khanjadas from Patai Rao of Champaner. The 11 villages of which it is composed are now shared

by two principal Mahomedan Bhagdars. The share of one Nathu Khanji consists of 5 villages and one-half of Pandu ; the other half with the rest of five villages being the share of the other Bhagdar Dosumia. They are the two principal sharers ; but there are other sub-sharers also whose names are Ahmud Khan, Mas Khan, Nathu Khan, Akbar Khan and Chandanbu. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them.

Residence.—Pandu, Rewa Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

PANTALAORI.

Area.—6½ sq. miles. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—8,000 rupees.

Nathu Khan and Nazar Khan, by caste Pathans, known by the appellation of 'Khan' are the present Thakores. They pay a tribute of Rs. 201 to the Raja of Rajpeepla direct. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them.

Residence.—Pantalaori, Rewa Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

PANTH-PIPLODA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—4,093.

Revenue.—4,000 rupees.

Peswa Narayan Rao assigned the revenues amounting to Rs. 11,761 of ten villages in Panth, Piplauda and Mandawal to a Maratha Pandit Sambhaji Attaji ; the grant was continued to his nephews Dhondeo Gopal and Janardan by Madhav Rao Peshwa.

In 1817 the Peshwa ceded the province of Malwa to the British Government, whereupon the sovereign rights of the Peshwa over these ten villages were transferred to them. The Government were pursuing the sagacious policy of maintaining the *statu quo*, and in 1821 they granted a *sanad* to Naru and Wasu Deo, sons of Dhondeo Gopal and Janardan Gopal, recognising the grant of the Peshwa's government through the instrumentality of Sir John Malcolm.

Naru Dhondeo died in 1850 ; his son Gopal Rao is the present representative of the grantees.

Wasu Deo Janardan died in 1868 ; his son Janardan was recognized as the successor ; but he was weak-minded and consequently his affairs had to be superintended by the Political Agent, Western Malwa, a Kamadar being appointed. He died in 1886. Narayan Rao at the time of his succession was but sixteen years old. On his attaining the age of majority the sole management of the estate was granted to him in 1882.

Residence.—Panth Piploda, Western Malwa ; Central India.

PARON OR NARWAR.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—7,984.

Revenue.—25,000 rupees.

The ruling Chiefs belong to the renowned Kachwa clan of Rajputs. They claim to be the direct descendants of Nala and through him of the solar race of Ayodhya. Till the commencement of the present century the family was in possession of the city Narwar and the kingdom founded by Nala. Thakore Madho Sinh was then wrested of Narwar, a place which had been the home of his forefathers for nearly fifteen centuries, by that marauding Maratha Chief Daulat Rao Sindhia. Being thus left without a home he wreaked his vengeance on the Maratha by the customary way of plundering his territory and harrying his subjects. It was with a view to put a stop to these raids that the District of Paron and six other villages were in 1818 granted to Madho Sinh of Narwar under the guarantee of the British Government.

Man Sinh, a nephew of Madho Sinh, had his estate confiscated on account of his having joined the band of rebels during the great mutiny of 1857. He, however, surrendered in 1859 on condition of obtaining a free pardon and suitable maintenance. His possessions were restored to him under the same conditions of guarantee &c. as he held them before the breaking out of the rebellion. Man Sinh proved exceedingly serviceable in subsequent operations resulting in the capture of the arch rebel Tantia Topi, and a *jagir* in perpetuity with a yearly income of Rs. 1,000 was sanctioned as a reward for Man Sinh's services. As, however, no suitable village or land was available in the N. W. Provinces, Man Sinh agreed to receive in perpetuity a cash allowance of Rs. 1,000 a year. Man Sinh died in 1882 (31st December), and was succeeded by his son Gajrudra Sinh, the

present chief, then 14 years of age. During his minority the estate was managed by a Kamdar acting under the general control of the Political Assistant, Guna. Since 1886 the management is carried on by the Chief himself, who is also placed under the same supervision. Gajendra Sinh married, in 1884, the daughter of the Chief of Sohawal in Baghel-Khand. The annual cash allowance of Rs. 1,000 has been given to him by the British Government in perpetuity. At the time of Gajendra Sinh's accession, Maharaja Sindhia claimed the right of being consulted in regard to succession, on the ground that the British guarantee had lapsed owing to Man Sinh's rebellion as also on the grounds of custom and precedent. The claim of the Gwalior Darbar was disallowed on the ground that British guarantee was restored by the arrangement of 1859, and also that as Gajendra Sinh was the legitimate son and heir of his predecessor, the Maharaja was not as of right entitled to be consulted. It was, however, settled that he may send one of his State officials to be present at the ceremony of installation.

Residence.—Narwar, Gwalior Agency; Central India.

PATAUDI.

Area.—53 sq. miles. Population.—19,002.

Revenue.—78,755 rupees.

The *jagir* of Pataudi was granted to Faiz Talale Khan for his services against the Holkar's troops.

The following is a tabular statement of the names of the successive *jagirdars* with the corresponding date of their succession.

Faiz Talale Khan.....	(original grantee.)
* Akbar Ali Khan.....	1829.
Mahmud Ali Taki Khan.....	1862.
Mahmud Mukhtar Hussain Ali Khan...	1867.
Mahmud Mumtaz Hussain Ali Khan...	1878.

The State is in charge of a manager under the superintendence of the Commissioner of Delhi.

The *sanad* of adoption is also granted to the *jagirdars*.

Residence.—Pataudi, Punjab; Northern India.

PATHARI.

Mohabat Sinh was the Thakore of Pathari in 1818, when the *tankha* to be directly received by him from the Chief of Dewas was settled at Rs. 4,835. He was succeeded by his son Zorawar Sinh. He received a certificate from the Resident of Indore in 1837 which fixes the character of the holding as being of an *istimarari* tenure from the Puar Rajas of Dewas. The present Thakore Bakhtawar Sinh succeeded his father Pirthi Sinh in October 1837. The Thakore also holds on fixed rent several villages under both the senior and junior Dewas Chiefs. He has to furnish reports of crimes committed in the guaranteed village to the Agent Governor General, Central India, and those in the non-guaranteed villages to the Chiefs of Dewas.

Tankhas of the amount of Rs. 2687 and Rs. 1,145 are also received from Sindhia and Holkar respectively.

Residence.—Pathari, Indore Agency; Central India.

PATHARI.

Area.—22 sq. miles. Population.—4,762.

Revenue.—12,000 rupees.

The Nawabs of Pathari are the descendants of Dost Mahmud, the founder of the Bhopal family. Their estate was situated in the Rahatgarh of which they were deprived by Sindhia. In 1794, however, through the intervention of the British Government Haidur Mahmud Khan was restored to his paternal estate; no tribute was to be paid by him to any State. He died in 1861 and his son Karim Mahmud Khan succeeded him in 1871. The State had to be placed under British management owing to the gross misrule by the Regent—the Nawab's mother.

Residence.—Pathari, Bhopal Agency; Central India.

PATHARIA.

In 1839 the estate of Patharia in the *paragana* of Unchand was obtained by Bhim Sinh on a quit-rent of 701 rupees payable in two instalments from Sambhaji Rao Angria. He was the brother of Zalim Sinh of Karandia where the family house is situated.

A further *tankha* of Rs. 66-8 is received by the family from the Holkar's Government.

The present Thakore Raghunath Sinh succeeded his father Unkar Sinh in May 1884.

Residence.—Patharia, Indore Agency ; Central India.

PATNA.

Area.—2,399 sq. miles. Population.—3,32,197.

Revenue.—91,232 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north and west by the Bora Sambar and Khariar chiefships ; and on the south and east by the States of Kalahandi and Sonpur.

Hira Vagra Deo, the Chief of Patna, died in 1866, and was succeeded by his son Sur Pratap Deo. In 1869, serious disturbances broke out in Patna headed by the Khands who, exasperated by the oppression of the Chief and his brother Lal Bishnath Sinh, adopted such extreme measures and rose into rebellion against the ruling authorities. They were, however, soon subdued, though not without considerable persecution and unnecessary blood-shed. The British Government at last intervened, and Lal Bishnath Sinh was at once ordered to leave the territories of Patna. The ruling Chief was also deposed, and the management of the State was assumed by the Supreme Government (1871).

The deposed Chief Raja Sur Pratap Deo died in 1878, leaving no male offspring behind him. He was succeeded by his nephew, Ramchandra Sinh, the son of Lal Bishnath Sinh. The State continues to be under the management of the British Government on whose behalf the administration is carried on by a Native Superintendent under the direct supervision of the Political Agent. The present Chief, who was born in 1872, has been educated at the Rajkumar College at Jabalpur.

The British Government conferred on the then Chief Hira Vagra Deo a *sanad* of adoption in 1865. A *sanad* defining his status, has not yet been granted to him. The chiefs of Patna are Chauhan Rajputs.

Genealogical tree.

Hira Vagra Deo.

Sur Pratap Deo.

Lal Bishnath Sinh.

Ranchandra Sinh.

(The present Chief.)

Residence.—Patna, Sambalpur : Central Provinces.

PATRI.

Area.—40 sq. miles. Population.—3,877.

Revenue.—15,000 rupees.

The ancient account of this principality is shrouded in obscurity. No mention of it is made in the old chronicles of the province save that the original seat of Government was at Madhavati where ruled one Vrija-puji—fortieth in descent from the founder of this chiefship. He founded the village of Ungha in the year 156 A. D. In 344 A. D. Vrijapalji II founded the village of Kavar, in the vicinity of Idar. Devapalji, 54th in descent from the original founder, was killed in a contest with Samalio Sod, the brave Bhil chieftain of Idar. Jet Sinh, the son of Devapalji, avenged his father's death by summoning to his assistance the neighbouring chief of Sametra, named Soningji, who invaded Idar, and killing Samalio Sod seized the capital. Then flourished one Ajamalji, 61 degrees removed from the original ancestor, who killed the Dewan of Idar on his demanding Salami (tribute of allegiance) from him. Fearing that the wrath of the Idar Chief would descend heavily upon him, he left his territories, and flying to Champaner sought refuge at the court of Gambhir Sinhji. The Raval conferred on him seven villages in *Inam*. Ver Sinhji, the renowned chieftain who shone at Patai Raval's court, was 71 degrees removed from the original founder. In the fierce battle between Patai Raval and Sultan Mahomed Beghada, fought in the year 1484, Patai was slain, and his courtiers were taken prisoners and carried to Ahmedabad. At

that time Viramgam was under the yoke of Vaghela chiefs. Viram Deo, the then reigning chief, had gone into outlawry against the Sultan and was plundering his villages. After several vain endeavours to subdue him, the Shah consulted the captive Amirs from Champaner, and Ver Sinh took up the gauntlet. He was sent with an army against Viram Deo who was killed in the struggle, and Viramgam fell into the hands of Ver Sinh. The Sultan, pleased with his bravery, conferred on him the whole district of Viramgam.

After the death of Ver Sinh, the *gadi* was successively occupied by Kisordas, Ramdas, Gangadas, Karmandas, Malakaji, Somabhai, Ranmalji, Nathoji and Venidas. Emperor Jehangir conferred on him the title of 'Desai Shri' and granted him certain rights such as the recovery of $7\frac{1}{2}$ p. c. on the revenues of Jhalawad; as well as the transit and toll duties recovered from the districts of Dhandhuka, Ranpur and the adjoining territories. Venidas was successively followed by Makandas, Mohotsi, Trikamdas and Bhanjibhai. The last-named chieftain resettled the deserted district of Dasada, whereupon the Emperor Aurangzeb bestowed upon him five villages in addition to his *jagir*. Bhanjibhai was succeeded by Udekaran, after whose death the estate devolved on Bhav Sinhji. During his reign Sherbuland Khan, the Suba of Ahmedabad, invaded and conquered Viramgam, but Bhav Sinhji and his comrades raised a small contingent consisting of Chunval Kolis and re-captured Viramgam. Some years after, Alitank, the Mughal Suba of Ahmedabad, besieged Viramgam. Bhav Sinhji, with the assistance of Damaji Gaekwad, succeeded in driving him out of his dominions. The combined forces then defeated Madhav Rao Pandit, the Peshwa's Suba, and collected the Peshakashi. They then defeated Khachar Meheramanji of Bhemdad, the Mehevasi chiefs of Padadhari and Lolandu, and the Thakor of Saela. After the campaign was over, Bhav Sinhji gave over the district of Viramgam to Damaji Gaekwad retaining to himself twenty villages, salt pans, the $7\frac{1}{2}$ p. c. commission on the revenues of Jhalawad, and the excise duties realised from the district of Mandvi. Bhav Sinhji removed his capital from Viramgam to Patdi. He was succeeded by Nathubhai. Fattch Sinh Rao Gaekwad invaded Patdi, but was defeated and driven back. Nathubhai was succeeded by Vakhat Sinhji in 1796 A. D. The Gaekwad suspecting that Vakhat Sinhji was lending his assistance to Malhar Rao, the rebellious Suba of Kadi, ordered Babaji Appaji, then in command of the Gaekwadi troops, to march against Patdi and chastise the insolent chief. In the struggle

Vakhat Sinhji was defeated and was finally compelled in 1803 to pay annually to the Gaekwad Rs. 5,652 on account of *ghasadana*. In 1807 the Patdi Chief for the first time came in contact with the British Government. In 1820 an agreement was concluded between the British Government and the Patdi Chief by which the latter relinquished to the former all his rights on the salt pans at Patdi. The British Government agreed in return to pay the chief Rs. 12,000 every year and grant him free of charge 340 Maunds and 20 shers (Bengal weight) of salt. After the death of Vakhat Sinhji the *gadi* was successively occupied by Hari Sinhji (1829-36), Kuber Sinhji (1836-46), Joravar Sinhji (1846-75) and Himat Sinhji (187-584). Himat Sinhji dying without issue, his brother Surajmalji, 93rd in descent from the original founder, was recognised as the Chief of Patdi in 1888. Desai Shri Surajmalji ranks among the fourth class chiefs of Kathiawad and exercises civil and criminal jurisdiction over several villages owned by him in that province. The jurisdiction over Patdi and the 20 villages under it rests however with the British Government.

Residence—Patdi, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

PETHAPUR.

Area.—10 sq. miles. Population.—7,335.

Revenue.—18,600 rupees.

The Vaghela Rajputs occupied the throne of Gujrat from the year 1244 to 1304. The last of the Vaghela kings of Anhilvad Patan, Karan, was deprived of his throne by the famous Khilji Emperor of Delhi, Ala-ud-Din, and the Rajput kingdom of Gujrat came to an end. The heirs of Karan Ghelo were two brothers Jeto and Var Sinh, who becoming out-laws against the ruling authority began to plunder the territories of Ahmad Shah I, the king of Gujrat. Once the Sultana accompanied by the wives of other Umravs had gone to the shrine of Makarwa near Sarkhej. The Vaghela brothers and their comrades taking advantage of this opportunity, came up to them, and surrounded them on all sides. Upon the Begam asking them who they were, they narrated their tale of woe and misery, and added that they were prepared to abandon their lives in regaining their lost estate. They threatened the ladies by expressing their determination to carry them away to their abode. The Begam told

them on oath that if they would spare her and her companions from that indignity, she would beg of her Imperial husband to restore to them their *giras*. The Vaghelas on receiving such an assurance allowed them to go. The Sultana on reaching the Palace entreated the king to summon these brave Vaghelas to his presence, and restore to them their lands, for she had solemnly promised them to get their grievances redressed. The Shah acceding to her request summoned the Vaghela outlaws to his court after offering them respectable security for their safety, and received them with due courtesy. The two brothers also, as a token of gratitude, gave their sister, Lalan, in marriage to Sultan Ahmud Shah. The king was much pleased, and he granted 500 villages between the two brothers. On partition 250 villages with Halol fell to the share of Jeta while Var Sinh Jot the other 250 villages with *sanad*.

Anand Deo,* a descendant of Jeta, was reigning at Kalol, when he bestowed upon his younger son Ranak Deo the appanage of Rupal. Samat Sinhji, two or three degrees removed from Kanak Deo, had two sons, among whom the estate of Rupal was apportioned. The elder Vajekaranji inherited Rupal while to the younger Someshwar was granted the appanage of Kolavda and 14 villages.

Chandaji, the grand-son of Someshwar, had a son named Himaloji. The estate of Sokhda near the river Sabarmati was then in the occupation of Pethaji Gohel. He was the maternal uncle of Himaloji. Once Himaloji attended by his followers went to Sokhda, and killing his uncle took possession of that *Taluka*. The wife of Pethaji Gohel became a *Sati* and followed her husband. Himaloji, on the bedding of the *Sati*, founded a village and named it Pethapur to perpetuate the memory of his departed uncle Pethaji. The present Chief of Pethapur is a descendant of this Himaloji. The founder of Pethapur—Himaloji—was tenth in descent from the Vaghela Jetha.

The present ruler Gambhir Sinhji who is a Vaghela Rajput ascended the *gadi* when he was a mere boy on the death of his father Hi-nat

* The territory of Kalol was inherited by Anand Dev's eldest son in whose line it remained till 1728. Bhagwat Sinhji lost Kalol and took up his residence at Limbodra. His descendants still enjoy the estate of Limbodra under Kadi in the Gaekwad's territory. They still claim the rights of the elder branch of the family.

Bhimji, the eldest son of Vajekaranji of Rupal, went to Idar and obtained the *Putlas* of Poseena and Harad. In the same way the younger son Vanoji went over to Alwa on the Sabarmati and settled there. His descendants are still the *jagirdars* of Alwa.

Sinhji, on 31st January 1879. As a fourth class chief of Mahi Kantha, he exercises criminal jurisdiction within his territory to the extent of passing sentence of rigorous imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year, and fine upto Rs. 5,00. In civil matters he is empowered to hear and dispose of suits to the extent of Rs. 2,500.

Residence.—Pethapur, Mahi Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

PHALTAN.

Area.—397 sq. miles. Population.—66,383.

Revenue.—2,35,921 rupees.

The city of Phaltan was founded in the fourteenth century by one Nimbraj who was the original grantee of the *jagir*. His father Padakla Jagdeo entered the services of the Emperor of Delhi—Mahmud Taghlakh (1325–1351). During his wars in the Deccan Padakla Jagdev lost his life on a battle-field. For such gallant services of the father, the son was rewarded with the grant of the estate and the title of 'Nayak'. He died in 1349. His son, Vanag, succeeded him but was put to death in 1374. The estate which was lost to the family with the assassination of Vanag was regained by Vangpal in 1390. He lived but four years to enjoy peacefully his re-acquisition. His successors were Vangoji (1394–1409), Maloji (1409–1420), Baji (1420–1445), Jova (1445–1470), Baji II (1470–1512), Mudhoji (1512–1527), Bajidar (1527–1560), Maloji II (1560–1570) and Vangoji II (1570–1630). They were nothing if not nonentities, and history has to take no note of them except the fact of their existence. The next occupant of the *jagir* was one Madhoji (1630–1644). He was put to death by the king of Bijapnr and his son Banaji was kept at the Court as a captive-prince till 1651, when he was allowed to revert to his ancestral patrimony. Of the four sons of Banaji, the third son Vangoji III. succeeded him in 1676. He died without any male issue in 1693. His nephew, Janoji, succeeded to the *gadi* but was made to vacate it by his half-brother Banaji II with the assistance of Shahu Raja of Satara (1708–1749). However, he was reinstated in his patrimony. He died in 1748. His son and successor, Madhoji II., held the reins of government till his death in 1765; whereupon his widow Sagunabai carried on the administration, but was soon bereft of all powers by Peshwa Madhav Rao Ballal who placed one Soyraji at the head of the chiefship. But Sagunabai was an

ambitious woman and would not let the power drop from her grasp so lightly. She adopted a son Maloji, and won back the chiefship with the help of Peshwa Madhav Rao the younger. Maloji died in 1777, and was succeeded by his adopted son Jau Rao. He survived the fall of the Peshwa's government for seven years; and the estate was attached by the Raja of Satara on his death in 1825. The attachment continued for two years, when one Banaji III. was allowed to succeed to the *gadi* on payment of a *Nazarana* (succession present) of Rs. 30,000. On his death in 1828, the State again passed under the attachment of the Satara Raja which lasted for thirteen years, at the end of which period the widow of the late chief—Jibai Ai Saheb—was allowed to adopt the present Chief Madhoji Rao on payment of the same amount of *Nazarana*.

During the minority of Madhoji Rao, Jibai Ai Saheb acted as the regent till her death in 1853, and subsequent to her death, the State was placed under British management. In 1860 Madhoji Rao attained the age of majority and was invested with the sole administration of his *jagir*. Owing to the reckless lavishness and mismanagement of the Chief, the *jagir* was sinking under the load of a heavy debt: at last in 1882 when he could not see his way out, he asked for a loan from the British Government offering to have no hand in the management of the State. The Government accepted the offer, and placed the State under the joint administration of the son of the Chief and a British Revenue Officer of long experience and standing. The State paid off its debt and saw order evolving out of the chronic disorder to which it was reduced in less than three years, and in 1885, the Chief was again placed in charge of the State.

The Chief is officially styled Nimbalkar, is a Maratha of the Powar clan and a first class Sardar in the Deccan. He pays a yearly tribute of Rs. 9,600 to the British Government. He also holds a *sanad* of adoption. In matters of succession the rule of primogeniture is not followed.

Residence.—Phaltan, Satara ; Bombay Presidency.

PIPLIA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—583.

Revenue.—4,000 rupees.

The Thakores of Piplia are Khichi Rajputs and have descended from the Raghugarh family.

The settlement effected with Thakore Partab Sinh guarantees to them the *tankha* of Rs. 2,796 from Sindhia and Holkar : they also hold certain villages on a quit-rent tenure from Sindhia which are not covered by the British guarantee.

Hati Sinh, the present Thakore succeeded Partab Sinh. Achal Sinh succeeded his father Unkar Sinh in 1863.

Residence.—Piplia, Western Malwa Agency ; Central India.

PIPLODA.

Area.—60 sq. miles. Population.—12,792.

Revenue.—1,10,000 rupees.

The family of the Thakores of Piploda is said to have come from Girnar in Junagarh in Kathiawad, and they are Doria Rajputs.

Thakore Pirthi Sinh had to pay Rs. 28,000 (Salim Shahi) to the Nawab of Jaora under the settlement mediated by Sir John Malcolm in 1820.

He, on the other hand, was to receive certain dues from the senior and junior Chiefs of Dewas and Rs. 1,000 *dami* from Tal and Mandawal.

Though the settlement mediated by Sir John Malcolm put the Thakore on an equal footing with the other chiefs of the Agency, his position has been subsequently altered to one of dependence on the Jaora Nawab by mutual agreements entered into in 1844 without the knowledge and sanction of the British Government. But the subsequent agreement has not yet authoritatively been pronounced upon by the Imperial Government, no question having arisen under it.

The successors of Pirthi Sinh were Umed Sinh, Unkar Sinh (who died in 1863) and Dule Sinh. He was the adopted son of Unkar Sinh. He died in 1888, and was succeeded by Keshar Sinh, the present Thakore.

Residence, Piploda, Western Malwa Agency ; Central India.

POICHA.

Area.—3 sq. miles. Population.—1,025.

Revenue.—2,846 rupees.

The ancestors of the present Chiefs received this *Taluka* as a main-

tenance allowance from Bhadarwa. The present Bhagdars (sharers) are seven in number, six of whom are Vaghelas Himat Sinhji, Waghji, Lalbhai, Vaje Sinhji, Gaga and Ranchhod; while the remaining one is Jadeja Chandra Sinhji. The Jadeja inherited it from his maternal ancestors. All the Bhagdars have no jurisdiction either civil or criminal.

Residence.—Poicha, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

POL.

Area.—140 sq. miles. Population.—5,248.

Revenue.—11,803 rupees.

In 1193 Jaya Chand Rathod, the last Rajput king of Kanauj, was defeated in a fierce battle with Shahab-ud-Din Ghori, and while flying from the field, hotly pursued by the enemy, he jumped into the river Ganges, whose waters became his grave. In 1212 his grandson Shiyoji leaving his native land set out towards the west. He first went to Dwarka, but afterwards returned to the sandy deserts of Marwad. He began encroaching upon the territories of the neighbouring chiefs, and established a small Rathod principality, by killing Mahodas and driving away the Gohels from Khergarh, a tract of land situated in the midst of the sandy mounds near the river Luni in the deserts of Marwad. Shiyoji had three sons, Asodham, Soning and Ajmal. Of these Asodham became the king of Marwad, while Soning and Ajmal repaired to the court of Bhim Dev II., the Solanki king of Anhilwad Patan in Gujarat. Soningji obtained from him the estate of Sametra in Kadi, where he built a mansion and took up his residence with his family. Ajmal proceeded towards Dwarka and there set up an independent principality. The Vaji and the Vadhel sects of Rajputs trace their descent from him.

When Soningji was residing at Sametra, a Koli chief named Samaliyo Sod was reigning at Idar. He was a despotic and a licentious chief, who forcibly demanded the hand of the fair daughter of his (Nagar Brahman) Minister. The *Karbhari*, to escape from that ignominy and wreak vengeance on the tyrant, was seeking the help of some truly Kshatriya chief, who would run to the rescue of the fair sex. He went to the court of Soningji, and relating to him his tale of misery he succeeded in bringing him over to Idar.

Soningji subsequently killed Samaliyo Sod and took possession of the territory of Idar in 1257. He ascended the *gadi* with the title of the Rao. His descendants reigned at Idar for nearly 400 years. When Rao Jagannath was on the throne, Idar was invaded by Prince Murad, son of the Emperor Shah Jahan, in 1656. The Rao on being expelled from Idar took shelter at Pol, where he expired after a few days. After the death of Jagannath his son Punjo became an outlaw in 1658, and regained Idar from the hands of the Mahomedans. He was after his death succeeded by his brother Arjundas. He was slain in a contest with the Rajputs of the Rehvar sect, and Idar was again occupied by the Mussalmans. After the death of Arjundas, Gopinath, the brother of the late Rao Jagannath, went out against the Moslem conquerors, and regained from them the throne of Idar. He ruled there for five years, when he was attacked by a party of Mahomedan troops. The Rao fled from the capital and took refuge within the walls of a temple, where he died for want of opium.

Rao Gopinath's grand-son Chando was installed upon the throne by the Desais and Majmundars of Idar, who expelled the Mussalman officers from the capital, in 1718. During his reign the Rehvars and the Vaghelas began to encroach upon the villages of Idar. Chando was neither a brave nor a wise ruler. He was seeking for opportunity to fly away from Idar and thus free himself from the trammels of the State. He was, however, prevented from doing so by his own mercenaries who demanded of him their salaries which had fallen into arrears. Sardar Sinhji, the Thakore of Valasana, then happened to be at Idar, and upon his becoming the Rao's security he was allowed to leave Idar. He entrusted the management of his State to Sardar Sinhji and himself went to Pol from which place he never returned to Idar.

Rao Chando had married the daughter of the Padikar Chief of Pol. On his arriving there he told his father-in-law that this was his last visit to him as he intended going to Kashi (Benares), and passing the remainder of his life on the banks of the sacred river Ganges. He stayed there for two months, and then set out under the guise of proceeding to Benares. He had hardly reached Sarsan, a village ten miles from Pol, when he made a halt there. He wrote a letter to his father-in-law entreating him to come to Sarsan and dine with him on the same board, for the last time before his departure for the holy shrine of Shri Vishweshwar. The con-

fidling-father-in-law went there, and while feasting with Rao Chando, he and his comrades got so much drunk that they became senseless. They were all killed by the order of Rao Chando, who marching upon Pol seized the *gadi*.

Rao Chando arrived at Pol* about the year 1720, and his descendants are still in the enjoyment of that estate.

The present Chief Prathi Sinhji is a Rajput of the Rathod race, and succeeded to the *gadi*, as a minor, on the 24th of October 1889, after the death of his father Hamir Sinhji. During his minority the State was under British management. The Thakores of Pol are residing, for the last 20 years, at Ghodadar, where they have built a mansion for them, the climate of Pol not agreeing with their constitution. Pol is ranked among the second class States of Mahi Kantha. In criminal matters the Chief is entitled to pass capital sentence upon such of his subjects who are found guilty of murder within his territories, while in civil matters he is empowered to hear and dispose of suits to the extent of Rs. 20,000.

Residence.—Ghodadar, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency

PREMPUR.

Area.—20½ sq. miles. Population.—1,828.

Revenue.—3,035 rupees.

Surajmalji, by caste Makwana Koli, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 187-2-6 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and Rs. 486-0-10 to the Idar Darbar as *Khichadi Hakku*. He is enlisted in the sixth class among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha, so in criminal matters he is empowered to inflict rigorous imprisonment for three months and a fine of Rs. 100, while in civil matters he is competent to hear and decide suits to the amount of Rs. 5,00 only.

Residence.—Prempur, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

* The annual income of Pol is very small, but since it is placed first among the second class States of Mahi Kantha, and since it has such a noble ancestry to boast of, it was our intention to bring the history from 1720 down to our own days; but for want of sufficient materials, we have to rest ourselves contented with what little we have narrated.

PUNADRA.

Area.—20 sq. miles. Population.—4,321.

Revenue.—14,849 rupees.

The ancestors of the Chief of Punadra were originally Makwana Rajputs, who subsequently became Makwana Kolis and finally embraced the religion of the Islam. While narrating the rise of the Makwanas it has been stated that Harpal, the son of Keshar Makwana, obtained several villages from Karan Ghelo, the last of the Rajput kings of Gujarat, and established his seat of government at Patdi. Of the 12 sons of Harpal, the eldest Sodhoji ascended the throne at Patdi, and his descendants are still reigning at Dhrangadra. The other princes were provided with rich appanages. One Hari Sinhji, a descendant of Harpal's eighth son Bapuji, went over to Sihora,* and there marrying a Koli bride created a new sect of Makwana Kolis. Hari Sinhji then took up service under the famous king Mahmud Begada of Gujarat. He pleased the Sultan by rendering him valuable service, and much more by embracing Islamism. The Shah granted him the *jagir* of Mandwa with 125 villages (1483). Hari Sinhji had a son named Jamal Miyan, who had also two sons, Amiji and Pira Miyan. Amiji obtained the estate of Mandwa, § while Pira Miyan got, in 1545, the *jagir* of Atarsumba with 22 villages. Haji Miyan, the son of Pira Miyan, had two sons: Akherajji and Vaje Sinhji, of whom Akherajji inherited Atarsumba, while Khadal was granted to Vaje Sinhji. The present *Talukdars* of Khadal are the descendants of this Vaje Sinhji. After the death of Akherajji Raj Sinh, Jet Sinh, Rupa Miyan and Jorawar Sinh successively occupied the Atarsumba *gadi*. This Jorawar Sinh was forcibly

* Sihora is now held by the Miyan of Mandwa.

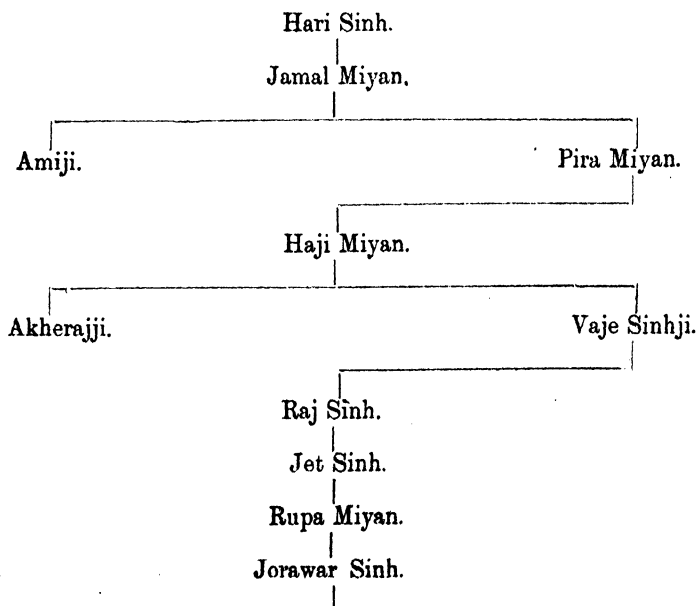
§ This Mandwa is now known by the name of Lal Miyan's Mandwa. It is in the Atarsumba *paragana* subject to the Kadi Division, in the territory of His Highness the Gaekwad. One Sultan Miyan, fifth in descent from Amiji, reigned at Mandwa. He had two sons, Miyan Mahmud and Dada Miyan. Of these the elder Miyan Mahmud inherited the estate of Mandwa, while the descendants of Dada Miyan became the Thakores of Dabha and Ramas. The present Piru Miyan of Mandwa is five degrees removed from Miyan Mahmud. He inherited the patrimony on the death of his father Sulian Miyan. When the Mahi Kantha Agency was first organized Mandwa was included in it, but as none has a claim of Ghas Dana cess upon this *Taluka*, it has been placed within the jurisdiction of the Gaekwad for the last 20 years. Piru Miyan is entitled to investigate into all offences except such grave crimes as murders, while in civil and revenue matters his power is unlimited. His principal seat is at Mandwa on the banks of the river Vatrak.

dispossessed of Atarsumba by the Gaekwad authorities in 1804. He was, however, allowed to retain possession of Punadra and several other villages. He therefore removed his capital to Punadra. He was succeeded by Nahar Sinh, Amar Sinh and Abhaya Sinh. Abhaya Sinh is the present Miyan of Punadra. He has a son named Shiv Sinh.

Abhaya Sinh observes a peculiar faith consisting of both Hindu and Mahomedan tenets. He and his relations give their daughters in marriage to Mussalmans, while the male members marry the Koli girls. Like Hindus they commence their marriage ceremonies with the worship of *Ganpati*, but they celebrate their weddings in the *Nika* form after the Mahomedans. They also follow the Mahomedan custom of burying their dead.

Thakore Abhaya Sinh is a fourth class Chief in the Mahi Kantha Agency, and as such his criminal jurisdiction extends to passing sentence of rigorous imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year, and fine to the amount of Rs. 500. He is also entitled in civil cases to hear and decide suits to the value of Rs. 2,500.

Genealogical tree.



Nahar Sinh.

|
Amar Sinh.

|
Abhaya Sinh.

(The present Chief.)

|
Shiv Sinh.

(The heir-apparent.)

Residence.—Punadra, Mahi Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

RAGHUGARH.

The estate of Raghugarh, as originally comprized, included the three modern chiefships of Garha, Dharnauda and Raghugarh. It was held by the Khichi family of Chauhan Rajputs. Balwant Sinh the head of the family and his son Jaya Sinh were taken prisoners in 1780 by Madhji Sindhia, and the family possessions were confiscated. This led to a blood feud between the family and the Gwalior Darbar. The hostilities were sustained on behalf of the family by Jaya Sinh, whose death in 1818 was followed by family quarrels consequent on a disputed succession. Dhankal Sinh and Ajit Sinh were the two rival claimants, with whom a settlement was arrived at in the next year with British guarantee. Sindhia was to hand over the fort of Raghugarh with the lands in the vicinity. The excess revenue derived from them, if any, over Rs. 55,000 was to be paid over to the Gwalior Darbar, whereas in case of deficiency, it was to be made good. The family dependants were enrolled in the Gwalior contingent in 1823. This agreement was superseded by a new one in 1843, owing to the fact that the actuals of revenue derived never came up to the stipulated amount, and as a matter of consequence the British treasury had to make it up, the allegation of the Gwalior Darbar being that the deficiency was due to the absence of any management and the falsity of the amount credited in the account submitted.

The new agreement assumed the form of three separate engagements with the three principal members of the family, namely Bijaya Sinh, Chhatar Sal and Ajit Sinh. Payment of a *nazarana* of Rs. 30,000 was

demanding by the Gwalior Darbar at the time of granting the *sanads* to which Bijaya Sinh and Chhatar Sal acceded, Ajit Sinh alone withholding his consent.

Garha.—Bijaya Sinh received by his new *Sanad* 52 villages on condition of maintaining good conduct towards the British Government, of abstaining from both encouraging and harbouring criminals committing offences within British territory and establishing police posts. He died in 1880, and was succeeded by his son Balbhadra Sinh, who was installed on the *gadi* in 1886 on his attaining the age of majority. The population of the estate is 10,854 and the revenue is estimated at Rs. 12,000.

Dharnauda.—Chhatar Sal received 32 villages with a revenue of Rs. 9,000 by his *sanad* containing like stipulations. His successors were Mangal Sinh, Bharat Sinh and Bhim Sinh. Bhim Sinh was recognized in 1877 by the British Government.

Raghugarh.—No fresh *sanad* was granted to Ajit Sinh by reason of his withholding his consent. He was a wrong-headed fellow, and his pertinacious conduct would have necessitated the employment of force to bring him round. He died in 1857, and was succeeded by his son Jaya Mandal Sinh, the present Thakore. His estate consists of 120 villages. The population of the estate is 18,148, and the revenue is estimated at Rs. 25,000.

RAIGAON.

This *jagir* was bestowed on Sarup Sinh by his brother Mahipat Sinh of Sohawal on a service tenure. The right of resumption claimed by Raghunath Sinh in 1829 was not countenanced by the Government; neither was quit-rent imposed on the successor of the *Jagirdar* in 1835 allowed; the Government ruled that faithful allegiance was the only claim of the Sohawal family on this its junior branch. On the other hand the pretension of the *Jagirdar* to independent status was absolutely disallowed. The contumacious refusal of Bikramjit Sinh to abide by the ruling of the Supreme Government led to the attachment of the *jagir* by the Sohawal Raja, which however was restored to him on his submission in 1885. The estimated revenue of the *Jagirdar* is Rs. 24,000 per annum.

Residence.---Raigaon, Bundelkhand; Central India.

RAIGARH.

Area.—1,486 sq. miles. Population.—1,68,525.

Revenue.—83,178 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the Native States of Sarguja and Gangpur; on the south by the river Mahanadi and Sambalpur District; on the east by the Kadabaga *Zamindari* and Gangpur State; and on the west by Chandrapur Chiefship and Sakti.

Deonath Sinh, who was ruling at Raigarh was granted in 1833 the *Zamindari* of Raigarh, which was confiscated from its last holder on his being found guilty of raising a rebellion against the Imperial Government. Deonath Sinh, who remained loyal to the British Government during the Mutiny of 1857, died in 1862, and was succeeded by his son Ghanshyam Sinh. In 1865 the Chief was granted a *sanad* of adoption and subsequently he was granted another *sanad* by which his status as a feudatory chief was properly defined.

In 1885 the management of the State was assumed by the India Government on account of the general maladministration of its Chief. Ghanshyam Sinh died in 1880, and the claims of his son, Lal Bhup Dev Sinh, to succeed to the *gadi* have already been recognised by the Supreme Government. The State continues to be administered by a British native officer as Superintendent, who acts under the orders of the Political Agent.

In 1890 the Chief made over to the British Government certain lands, with civil and criminal jurisdiction thereon, required for the purposes of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway. He pays Rs. 4,000 to the British Government as a tribute.

Residence.—Raigarh, Central Provinces; Southern India.

RAIKA.

Area.—2½ sq. miles. Population.—300.

Revenue.—3,500 rupees.

This Taluka formerly belonged to Solanki Rajputs, but subsequently a third part of it was assigned to a kinsman of the Gaekwad known by the family name of Pagadar, while the remaining two-thirds were assigned to a Parmar Rajput Nathuji Rao *alias* Bhow Saheb is at present

the holder of the Pagadar's share, while the Parmar's share goes to one Jaya Sinh Bawa. The former is officially styled the Pagadar, and the latter the Thakore. A tribute of Rs. 575-12-0 is paid by them to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda. They enjoy neither civil nor criminal powers.

Residence.—Raika, Rewa Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

RAIRAKHOL.

Area.—833 sq. miles. Population.—20,335.

Revenue.—14,329 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by Bamra ; on the east by Athmallie and Sugul ; on the west by Sambalpur District ; and on the south by Sonpur.

The present Chief * Raja Bishan Chandra Jayamuni was born in 1819, and ascended the *gadi* in 1825. He once incurred the displeasure of the sovereign power, and his name was omitted from the list of the feudatory chiefs owing to the mismanagement of his estate, but when on further enquiry it was ascertained that the real persons responsible for the mal-administration were the brothers of the chiefs, who managed the affairs during his illness, his name was ordered to be admitted in the rank of feudatory princes. In 1857, the Raja remained firm in his loyalty to the British *Raj* and thus fully requited the confidence placed in him by the Supreme Government. In 1866, he received a *sanad* of adoption and also another *sanad* defining his status as a feudatory chief. Owing to blindness and general infirmity brought on by old age, as also on account of the sad demise of his only son and heir, the affairs of the State were almost neglected and great disorder prevailed throughout the State. The irresponsible officers began to oppress the poor ryots, who deserted their homes, and the State treasury reached the verge of bankruptcy. In 1889, the Chief was compelled to employ as his Diwan a competent officer with the approval of the Chief Commissioner. An officer of the rank of a Tehasildar has been appointed Diwan, who carries on the administration under the immediate control of the Political Agent.

The Chief pays Rs. 800 as a tribute to the British Government.

Residence.—Rairakhhol, Central Provinces ; Southern India.

* The ruling family—the Kadam Bansi Rajput family—originally came from Bonai and settled here from very early times. It is not known who founded this principality. In 1804 the title of "Raja" was received by the then ruling chief from the Gajapati Raja of Puri.

RAI SANKLI.

Area.—6 sq. miles. Population.—721.

Revenue.—9,000 rupees.

Ambai Das, Patel by caste, known by the appellation of 'Desai' is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 556 to the British Government and of Rs. 382 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda. This Taluka consists of two villages, Rai and Sankli. The Talukdar is in the sixth class, so he is empowered to inflict rigorous imprisonment for three months and a fine upto Rs. 200, while in civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose of suits to the amount of Rs. 500. Rai is four miles to the south of Sankli, and Sankli is 5 miles to the north-west of the Wadhwan Railway Station.

Residence.—Vaso, Baroda; Bombay Presidency.

RAJGARH.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—922.

Revenue.—5,000 rupees.

The Bhumias of Rajgarh held on lease 12 villages in the Dharampuri *Paragna* out of which they relinquished ten villages in 1819, retaining possession of two villages Chandawar and Bhawania on a yearly payment of Rs. 302. The Bhumias were bound by an agreement to protect the roads from the ravages of thieves and free-booters, and were held liable for all robberies committed on those roads. In 1821 another engagement was brought about through the mediation of Sir John Malcolm, under which the Bhumia was allowed an annual allowance of Rs. 500 from the Dharampuri Kachahri in addition to Rs. 58 from the *Zamindars*. Under this new agreement, too, the Bhumia is held responsible for all robberies in the district. In 1846 the Bhumia's *Hakks* to receive Rs. 50 every year from the Kachahri of Hasilpur and to hold 12 *Bighas* of irrigated land in Sihod together with certain dues in that village were confirmed. In 1867 the Maharaja Holkar and the Raja of Dhar pressed their claims on the villages of Rajgarh and Dhal which had all along been held by the Bhumia, but the Government of India decided that the Bhumia should enjoy complete authority in those villages, subject only to the general control of the Political Agent of Bhopawar. By a *sanad* granted to the Bhumia in 1871

he was confirmed in the possession of those villages. In 1860 the Bhumia was deprived of certain villages which he held under the Indore Darbar, but they were restored to him in 1887 on the same conditions as those imposed on him in respect to villages held under the Dhar Chief.

The Bhumias in whose time the original settlement was effected were Mohan Sinh and his son Fatteh Sinh. The latter was after his death succeeded by Hathi Sinh, who on his death in 1864 was succeeded by his brother Chain Sinh. He is the ninth in descent from Tantaji, who first settled in Rajgarh.

Residence.—Rajgarh, Bhopawar Agency; Central India.

RAJPARA.

Area.— $1\frac{1}{2}$ sq. miles. Population.—2,094.

Revenue.—12,000 rupees.

This Taluka was received in appanage by Togaji, from Sangaji, the founder of the Kotda-Sangani State. His descendant Ashaji, by caste Jadeja Rajput, is the present Talukdar. He pays a tribute of Rs. 2,922 to the British Government and Rs. 2,611 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdar has one independent tribute-payer. He is enlisted in the sixth class among the chiefs of Kathiawad, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for three months and fine up to Rs. 200, while in civil cases he is competent to hear and dispose of suits to the amount of Rs. 500. Rajpara is 12 miles distant from Gondal.

Residence.—Rajpara, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

RAJPARA.

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—610.

Revenue.—2,525 rupees.

Akhabhai and Bhaiji, by caste Sarvaiya Rajputs, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 256 to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda and Rs. 18 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have two independent tribute-payers. Neither civil nor

criminal powers are enjoyed by them. Rajpara is 4 miles distant from Chok.

Residence.—Rajpara, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

RAJPUR.

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—125.

Revenue.—596 rupees.

Himat Sinh, by caste Solanki Rajput, is the present Talukdar. He pays Rs. 51 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda as a tribute. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by him.

Residence.—Rajpur, Rewa Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

RAJPUR.

Area.—15 sq. miles. Population.—1,674.

Revenue.—25,000 rupees.

This State was received in appanage by Patabhai, the third son of Sabal Sinh, the Thakore of Wadhwan, in 1765. His descendant Karan Sinh, Jhala Rajput by caste, is the present Talukdar. A tribute of Rs. 2,412 is paid by him to the British Government and of Rs. 186 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdar is enlisted in the sixth class among the chiefs of Kathiawad, so he is empowered to inflict rigorous imprisonment for three months and a fine up to Rs. 200. In civil cases he hears and decides suits to the amount of Rs. 500. Rajpur is 3 miles distant from the Wadhwan Civil Station.

Residence.—Rajpur, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

RAMANKA.

Area.—2 sq. miles. Population.—509.

Revenue.—1,500 rupees.

Haribhai and Jiwabhai, by caste Gohel Rajputs, are the present

Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 574 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and Rs. 98 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The *Talukdars* have two independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them. Ramanka is 8 miles distant from the Ujalvav Railway Station.

Residence.—Ramanka, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

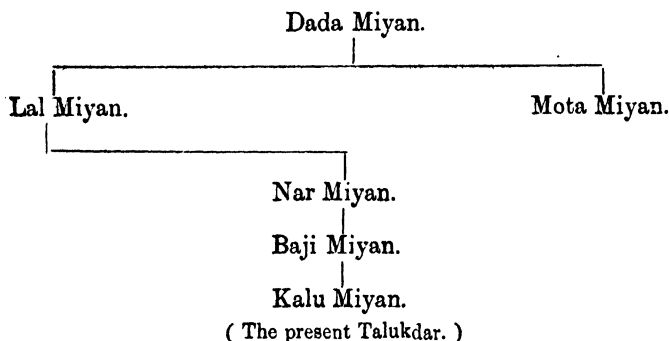
RAMAS.

Area.—10 sq. miles. Population.—1,806.

Revenue.—2,851 rupees.

This State was founded by Lal Miyan, the son of Dada Miyan, the younger son of Sultan Miyan of Mandwa. He was succeeded, after his death, by Nar Miyan, and Baji Miyan, and the latter in his turn was succeeded by Kalu Miyan. He is the present *Talukdar* of Ramas and belongs to the Molesalam Girasia caste. A tribute of Rs. 158-5-4 is paid by him to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda. He is enlisted in the sixth class among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for three months and fine upto Rs. 100, while in civil cases he is competent to hear and decide suits to the amount of Rs. 500.

Genealogical tree.



Residence.—Ramas, Mahi Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

RAMDURG.

Area.—169 sq. miles. Population.—36,181.

Revenue.—1,51,813 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the Torgal sub-division of the Kolhapur State; on the south by Nargund in Dharwad District; on the east by the Badami sub-division of the Bijapur District; and on the west by the Nawalgund sub-division of the Dharwad District.

The forts of Ramdurg and Nargund, supposed to be built by Shiwaji, were at his death left in charge of a Brahman named Appaji Suru. In 1692, they were captured by Aurangzeb's troops, but after the lapse of fifteen years were recovered by Appaji through the skill of one of his servants, Ram Rao Dadaji Bhawe, who was by caste a Chitapavan Brahman, and who was destined to play an important part in the subsequent history of this principality. Though Appaji nominally held possession of these two fortresses, he on account of his old age left the sole management in the hands of his trusted lieutenant, Ram Rao, who was formally invested with the sole charge of the two forts and was honored with the title of *Pant Sachiv* by Shambhaji, the grandson of Shiwaji.

Appaji died in 1728, leaving behind him an adopted son, named Balwant Rao. The astute Ram Rao, though ostensibly acting as his guardian, administered the whole estate in his own name. He had called to his aid his nephew Dadaji, who was residing in the Konkan and who also was endowed with remarkable skill and ability. Among the several grants bestowed upon Dadaji for his conspicuous services, was the '*taraf*' of Konnur received from the Nawab of Savanur, who reserved to himself one-third of the revenues, to which right the Peshwa afterwards succeeded. Shambhaji assigned to Dadaji, in 1734, the whole tract lying between the rivers Ghataprabha and Tungabhadra. Some years after the death of Appaji, Ram Rao, with his son Yogi Rao, went on a pilgrimage to Kashi, during which Ram Rao died. His son Yogi Rao returned to his native place, and after some time procured the assassination of his cousin Dadaji, who was left in charge of the whole estate. Dadaji left behind him a son named Bhaskar Rao, and a contest ensued between Yogi Rao and Bhaskar Rao for succession. Balwant Rao, the adopted son of Appaji, taking advantage of this family feud, claimed to be put in actual possession of his father's estates which were formally assigned to him in 1758. The whole dispute was referred to Madhav Rao Ballal, the then reigning Peshwa

who gave his decision against Balwant Rao, who was allotted a fixed allowance of Rs. 12,000 a year. Thirty years after the passing of this decision, Balwant Rao's descendants succeeded in getting possession of the town of Hebli, in lieu of the cash allowance mentioned above. The descendants of Appaji—the real proprietor of the forts of Ramdurg and Nargund—are now merely the proprietors of Hebli.

Of the two competitors Yogi Rao and Bhaskar Rao, the latter, and after his death, his adopted son Venkat Rao, held the sole management of the whole estate, the former receiving only a fixed allowance out of the estate. In 1778 the hill-forts of Ramdurg and Nargund came under the sway of the powerful Haidar Ali of Mysore, who ratified the conditions imposed upon the *Inamdar* by the Peshwas. Tipu Sultan, however, not content with merely exacting some service from the *Inamdar*, wished to impose further burdens upon him. Venkat Rao, who had inherited the estate after Bhaskar Rao, resisted, and Tipu marched with his army against Nargund and besieged it on all sides. The fort was for a time gallantly defended against the attacks of the besieging army, and when Tipu saw that fresh succour had arrived from Poona for the defence of the fortress, he agreed to relinquish all his demands against Venkat Rao in case the hill-fort was surrendered to him. Tipu had hardly any scruples to violate his plighted faith, and hardly had the troops sent from Poona for the defence of the fort gone out of sight, when in direct contravention of the conditions agreed upon, he took Venkat Rao prisoner and carried him with his family to Mysore. The beautiful daughter of the Brahman *Jagirdar* was forcibly admitted into the Moslem's harem. Ram Rao the representative of the other branch of the family somehow managed to escape the peril. Venkat Rao was, however, soon restored to liberty by the operations of the allied troops under the command of Lord Cornwallis against the Tiger of Mysore. The Peshwa granted a new *sanad* in 1791 bestowing the whole estate jointly upon Venkat Rao and Ram Rao. The hill-fort of Ramdurg was, however, left in exclusive charge of Ram Rao though Venkat Rao secured for himself the largest portion of the estate. In 1810 Narayan Rao, the son of Ram Rao, perceiving the unequal distribution of the property, applied to the Peshwa, over whom he had considerable influence, to divide the whole estate between the heirs of Ram Rao and Dadaji. Baji Rao II admitted this claim and himself put Narayan Rao in possession of the share, and fixed the amount of the contingent to be furnished by each moiety on occasions of exigency

When the last war broke out between the Peshwa and the English, Narayan Rao of Ramdurg had a party of his troops in the service of the Peshwa, but the wary chief giving up the tottering cause of his patron joined the English troops under General Munro. The war terminated in the total overthrow of the Peshwa's government, and when the English assumed management of the affairs in the Maharashtra, they granted very liberal terms to their ally the Chief of Ramdurg. He was no longer required to furnish any troops to the Paramount Power in times of war, but in lieu of service, he was called upon to pay Rs. 3,468-3-4 every year to the British Government.

In 1827, Narayan Rao died without any male issue. The only collateral relations of the deceased Chief were his cousin, the lord of Nargund, and his two sons. They being married, were considered, according to the Shastras, ineligible for adoption. It was at first decided to resume Ramdurg, but the widow of Narayan Rao raised a strong protest against such an inequitable decision, and the Government had finally to yield to the wishes of the dowager Rani. The Nargundkar also claimed the reversion of the estate to himself by right of survivorship, but his contention was also disallowed. At last in 1829, Radhabai, the widow of Narayan Rao, was granted permission to adopt Harihar Rao, the youngest son of the Nargund Chief, who was then about fourteen years old. The Rani did not at all like the arrangement proposed to her, but when she saw that she had no other alternative left to her but to accede to the wishes of Government, she after making ample provisions for the maintenance of her own dignity and authority, adopted the boy proposed to her, who assumed the name of Ram Rao. Radhabai was a woman of strong decisive character, and possessed administrative abilities of the highest order. She clung to power with too much fondness to allow her to delegate even a portion of it to any one else, much less to her adopted son with whom her relations were never cordial. The young boy, feeling a sort of disgust at his mother's inordinate love of power, left Ramdurg and sought shelter with his father, where through the intervention of the British Government he was assigned a fixed allowance from the Ramdurg estate. Radhabai did not allow him to assume management of the estate until her death which took place in 1857.

Ram Rao was then called upon to take charge of his State at a most critical period in the History of India. The great Sepoy Mutiny had broken out in almost all parts of the country, and the loyalty of all the native

princes was severely put to the test. Bhaskar Rao, the Chief of Nargund, was much chagrined at being refused permission to adopt. He made up his mind to side with the mutineers and openly defy the authority of the British Government. He further endeavoured to persuade his half-brother Ram Rao of Ramdurg to throw off the British yoke and assume independence. Ram Rao not only refused, but informed the Political Agent, Mr. Monson, of his brother's wicked design. Mr. Monson determined upon marching to Nargund in the hope of dissuading the fool-hardy chief from carrying out his chimerical purpose. Though Ram Rao succeeded, by means of earnest entreaties, in persuading Mr. Monson to give up his intention of seeking an interview with Bhaskar Rao, yet he proceeded in that direction attended with only a small retinue. The Nargundkar, who had grown a fanatic, attacked his camp on the night of the 29th May 1858, and put to the sword the unfortunate officer and his comrades. To add insult to injury, the decapitated head of the British officer was taken to Nargund and there exhibited as a trophy. He then flew into open rebellion, but his fort was soon captured and himself taken prisoner. The rebel Chief was publicly executed at Belgaum and his estate confiscated.

Ram Rao, the Chief of Ramdurg, having no issue, applied to the Supreme Government for permission to adopt an heir, which was readily granted to him. In 1866 he adopted as his heir and successor a young boy aged 15 years, who happened to be a collateral descendant of the Bhawe family, residing in Kolhapur. The adopted son was given the name of Yogi Rao. In 1862 a *sanad* of adoption was granted to the *Jagirdar* of Ramdurg.

Ram Rao died in 1872 and was succeeded by his adopted son Yogi Rao. In 1867 Yogi Rao *alias* Bapu Saheb was married to the daughter of the Chief of Sangli. He died in 1878 leaving a minor son named Venkat Rao. During his minority the administration of the State is carried on by Joint *Karbharis*. He has power to try his own subjects for capital offences without the express permission of the Political Agent, and ranks as a first class *Sardar* in the Southern Maratha Country.

Residence.—Ramdurg, Southern Maratha Country; Bombay Presidency.

RAMGARH.

Tankhas payable by Sinhia, Holkar and the Chiefs of Dewas and Bhopal to the *Thakores* of Ramgarh amount to Rs. 8,615 under a settlement

concluded in 1819. The successors of Khusal Sinh—the Thakore with whom the settlement was made—were his son Ishri Sinh and grandson by adoption Kumer Sinh. For his complicity in a murder Kumer Sinh was convicted and his *tankha* was forfeited; but it was continued to his adoptive mother Thakurani Solankini till her death in 1863. Man Sinh was recognized as her successor.

Residence.—Ramgarh, Bhopal Agency; Central India.

RAMPARDA.

Area.—5 sq. miles. Population.—423.

Revenue.—1,034 rupees.

Raja and Godad, Kathis by caste, are the present Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 75 is paid by them to the British Government. They have two independent tribute-payars. Neither civil nor criminal powers are granted to them. Ramparda is 7 miles to the north of the Muli Railway Station.

Residence.—Ramparda, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

RAMPURA.

Area.—2½ sq. miles. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—6,815 rupees.

Sagan Bawa, Bhim Sinh, Mitha Bawa, Nathu Bawa, Kalu Bawa, Som Bawa, Khusal Bawa, Chhita Bawa, Partabba and Chandaba, are the present share-holders. A tribute of Rs. 1,422 is paid by them to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda. No civil and criminal powers are granted to them.

Residence.—Rampur, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

RAMPURA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—539.

Revenue 1,200 rupees.

Udaji, Makwana Koli by caste, is the present Thakore. He pays a

tribute of Rs. 98-10-5 to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda through the Political Agent of Mahi Kantha. The Thakore is enlisted in the seventh class among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha. So his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for one month and fine up to Rs. 50 while in civil matters he is competent to hear and decide suits to the amount of Rs. 250.

Residence.—Rampura, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

RANASAN.

Area.—50 sq. miles. Population.—5,544.

Revenue.—10,007 rupees.

The Thakores of this *Taluka* are Rehvar Rajputs of the Indra descent. They belong to the family of the Raos of Chandravati, a city situated in days of old at the foot of Mount Abu. In 1297 a *Sirdar* by name Jaspal left Chandravati for *Hadol*, a place in Mahi Kantha. Prathuraj, thirteenth in descent from him, proceeded to Ghodawada, and making several acquisitions in the neighbourhood consolidated them into an independent principality. Afterwards his clansmen spread themselves far and wide over the province founding several *Talukas* including Ranasan.

The present Thakore, Kishor Sinh, was adopted by Hamir Sinh whom he succeeded to the *gadi*. The *Talukdar* is ranked among the fourth class chiefs of Mahi Kantha, so he is empowered to inflict punishment with hard labour for one year and fine upto Rs. 500. In civil cases he is competent to hear and dispose of suits to the amount of Rs. 2,500.

Residence.—Ranasan, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

RANDHIA.

Area.—3 sq. miles. Population.—539.

Revenue.—5,000 rupees.

Gulam Haidar and Bawa Miyan, Mussalman by caste, known by the appellation of Saiyads are the present *Talukdars*. No tribute is paid by them to any higher authority. They have one independent tribute-payer. Neither

civil nor criminal powers are enjoyed by the *Talukdars*. Randhia is 6 miles distant from the Chital Railway Station.

Residence.—Randhia, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

RANIGAM.

Area.—3. sq. miles. Population.—735.

Revenue.—25,566 rupees.

Bawaji, by caste Kathi of the Valera clan, is the present *Talukdar*. A tribute of Rs. 714 is paid by him to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda. He has two independent tribute-payers. Neither civil nor criminal powers are granted to him. Ranigam is 10 miles to the west of Chok.

Residence.—Ranigam, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

RANIPURA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—217.

Revenue.—1,300 rupees.

Godarji, by caste Makwana Koli, is the present *Thakore*. No tribute is paid by him to any higher authority. He is enlisted in the seventh class among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict punishment with hard labour for one month and fine upto Rs. 50, while in civil matters he is competent to hear and decide suits to the amount of Rs. 250.

Residence.—Ranipura, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

RANPUR.

Area.—203 sq. miles. Population.—40,115.

Revenue.—30,641 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north, east and south by the Puri District; and on the west by the Nayagarh State.

The ruling family is a very ancient one, being about 109 generations old, and founded by one Basara Basaka. His son assumed the title of

'Narendra' which was regularly assumed by every one of his successors till the additional titles of 'Bajradhar' and 'Mahapatra' were acquired and assumed by Kunjavi Hari Narendra, the ninety-eighth Raja; these titles have also been borne by all the succeeding Rajas. The present Raja Binudhar succeeded to the *gadi* in 1845. He pays Rs. 1,400-13-2 to the British Government as a tribute.

Residence.—Ranpur, Orissa Tributary Mahals; Bengal.

RATANMAL.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—1,212.

Revenue.—1,500 rupees.

Thakore Abhaya Sinh died in 1878, and was succeeded by his son Thakore Dhiraj Sinh. As he was a minor at the time of his succession, the estate has been placed under the charge of a manager appointed by the Political Agent. The Thakore is receiving education at the Rajkumar College, Indore. He pays no tribute to the British Government.

Residence.—Ratanmal, Bhopawar Agency; Central India.

RATANPUR—DHAMANKA.

Area.—3 sq. miles. Population.—921.

Revenue.—5,850 rupees.

Kasal Sinh, Sher Sinh and Dip Sinh, by caste Gohel Rajputs, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 750 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and Rs. 153 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have 3 independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are granted to them. Ratanpur is 5 miles distant from the Dhola Railway Station.

Residence.—Ratanpur, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

RENGAN.

Area.— $\frac{3}{4}$ mile. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—964 rupees.

Daima Bapuji and Nathubhai, Molesalam Mussalman by caste, are

the present principal share-holders. A tribute of Rs. 561 is paid by them to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda. Neither civil nor criminal powers are enjoyed by the Chief of this State.

Residence.—Rengan, Rewa Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

ROHISALA.

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—340.

Revenue.—3,101 rupees.

Rasaji and Samaji, by caste Sarvaiya Rajputs, are the present *Talukdars*. They pay a tribute of Rs. 103 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have 2 independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them. Rohisala is 5 miles distant from Chok.

Residence.—Rohisala, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

RUPAL.

Area.—17 sq. miles. Population.—3,270,

Revenue.—4,180 rupees.

Man Sinh, Rehvar Rajput by caste, is the present Thakore. He pays a tribute of Rs. 1,164-3-6 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and Rs. 361-4-2 to the Idar State as *Khichadi Hakka*. The Thakore is enlisted in the fifth class among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for fix months and a fine of Rs. 250, while in civil matters he is competent to hear and decide suits to the amount of Rs. 1,000.

Residence.—Rupal, Mahi Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

SADA KHERI.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—3,000.

Revenue.—3,800 rupees.

Two *sanads* dated 1839 and 1845 were granted to Thakore Gopal

Sinh guaranteeing his possessions by the Nawab of Jaora. They were very recently brought to the notice of the Government. Gopal Sinh died in 1867 and his successor Gambir Sinh died in 1889. After him the present Thakore Bahdur Sinh succeeded to his patrimonial possessions.

The Thokores have to pay a quit-rent of 3,501 Salim Shahi rupees to the Nawab of Jaora for the village of Sada Kheri. They hold certain villages on service tenure from the Ratlam and the Sailana States and others on an *istimarari* tenure from Gwalior and Dewas (Junior).

Residence.—Sada Kheri, Western Malwa Agency; Central India.

SAHUKA.

Area.—6 sq. miles. Population.—920.

Revenue.—2,650 rupees.

Khetabhai, Jhala Rajput by caste, is the present *Talukdar*. He pays a tribute of Rs. 519 to the British Government and Rs. 65 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The *Talukdar* has one independent tribute-payer. Neither civil nor criminal powers are granted to him. Sahuka is one mile distant from the Limbdi Railway Station.

Residence.—Sahuka, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

SAKTI.

Area.—138 sq. miles. Population.—25,374.

Revenue.—24,462 rupees.

The Chiefs of this estate formerly occupied the position of feudatories to the Maharajas of Sambalpur. The ex-chief Raja Ranjit Sinh was born in 1836. In 1865 a *sanad* of adoption was granted to Raja Ranjit Sinh who passed the acknowledgment of fealty to the Paramount Power. In 1875 he was deprived of his powers on account of his systematic tyranny over his subjects and other serious charges proved against him. In 1890 the Chief, through the Deputy Commissioner of Bilaspur then acting as Political Agent, Sakti, made over to the British Government certain lands with civil and criminal jurisdiction thereon, required for the Bengal-Nagpur Railway. The Chief of this State pays a tribute of Rs. 800 to the

British Government. The management of the estate was for a time assumed by the Supreme Government when at last in February 1892 Rup Narayan Sinh, the elder son of Ranjit Sinh, was put in charge of his paternal estate. A British officer, named Ganpat Rao, was appointed Dewan with full powers to guide the young Chief in the conduct of the administration.

Residence.—Sakti, Bilaspur ; Central Provinces.

SAMADHIALA.

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—957.

Revenue.—8,000 rupees.

Koyaji and Janbai are the present share-holders, of whom the former belongs to the Sarvaiya Bajput caste and the latter to the Kathi of the Khachar clan. A tribute of Rs. 510 is paid by them to the Baroda State and of Rs. 8 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. They have no civil and criminal powers. Samadhiala is 8 miles to the west of Chok.

Residence.— Samadhiala, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

SAMADHIALA CHABARIA.

Area.—62 sq. miles. Population.—1,414.

Revenue.—6,500 rupees.

Sabal Sinh, Guman Sinh, Sardar Sinh, Mepji and Kakaji, Gohel Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 1,891 is paid by them to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda, and of Rs. 289 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. They have 5 independent tribute-payers. Neither civil nor criminal powers are enjoyed by the *Talukdars*. Samadhiala Chabaria is 4 miles distant from the Ujalvav Railway Station.

Residence.— Samadhiala Chabaria, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

SAMADHIALA CHARAN.

Area.—5 sq. miles. Population.—135.

Revenue.—860 rupees.

Haja and Ram, Charans by caste, are the present Talukdars. No

tribute is paid by them to any higher authority. They have two independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are granted to them.

Residence.—Samadhiula Charan, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

SAMLA.

Area.—13 sq. miles. Population.—1,380.

Revenue.—1,625 rupees.

Naran Sinh, Bhakharji, Bhagwanji and Prabhat Sinh, Jhala Rajputs by caste, are the present *Talukdars*. They pay a tribute of Rs. 959 to the British Government and Rs. 104 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The *Talukdars* have 4 independent tribute-payers. Neither civil nor criminal powers are granted to them. Samla is 5 miles to the east of the Kharwa Railway Station.

Residence.—Samla, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

SANALA.

Area.—51 sq. miles. Population.—500.

Revenue.—2,700 rupees.

Pachanji and Rasaji, Sarvaiya Rajputs by caste, are the present *Talukdars*. A tribute of Rs. 307 is paid by them to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda and of Rs. 15 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. They have two independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are granted to them. Sanala is 4½ miles distant from Chok.

Residence.—Sanala, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

SANDUR.

Area.—151 sq. miles. Population.—11,390.

Revenue.—45,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the south by the Kudligi *Taluk*, and on all other sides by the Hospet *Taluk* of the Bellary District.

The present Chief of Sandur is descended from Maloji Rao Ghorpade who was an influential officer in the service of the Sultan of Bijapur. Maloji's son Biraji took up service under the great Shivaji who threw off his yoke of allegiance to the king of Bijapur. Siddoji, the son of Biraji, conquered Sandur from the Poligur Chief and assigned it to his third son Murari Rao. Siddoji died in 1715, and Sandur was left in the hands of Murari Rao. It was at this juncture that there appeared on the stage of Indian history a character, who left behind him a reputation second to that of none of the military adventurers of the east. This was the celebrated Haidarali Khan of Mysore, who deprived Murari Rao of all his possessions. In 1785, Shiv Rao, the nephew and adopted son of Murari Rao, was killed in a scuffle with the Mysore troops. Shiv Rao left behind him an infant son, Siddoji, then only two years old. In 1790 the child with his guardian and uncle Venkat Rao marched towards Sandur at the head of a small party of their adherents, and with the assistance of the inhabitants of Sandur succeeded in expelling the Mahomedan Governor stationed there by Tipu Sultan. Siddoji II died without issue in 1796, and his widow through the exertions of Venkat Rao adopted one Shiv Rao, the son of Khadi Rao, who succeeded to the *jagir* in 1799. As long as Tipu was alive none of these *Jagirdars* ventured to reside at Sandur, but on the death of the Tiger of Mysore and the fall of Seringapatam in 1799, Shiv Rao II accompanied by Venkat Rao repaired to Sandur. The Peshwa now became the suzerain lord of all the *Jagirdars* in the Deccan, and the *jagir* of Sandur was, by a *sanad*, granted to one Yashwant Rao in supersession of Shiv Rao II. With a view to avoid any internal dissensions, Venkat Rao appeased Yashwant Rao by granting to one of his sons Nar Sinh Rao a monthly allowance of 100 Pagodas (1804). This arrangement lasted till 1808 when Nar Sinh Rao was dismissed and Shiv Rao continued to hold possession of Sandur until the breaking out of the Maratha War. Soon after the declaration of the war Shiv Rao was asked by General Munro to surrender Sandur and receive in exchange another *jagir* of the yearly income of Rs. 9,000. In 1817 the hill-fort of Sandur with its adjacent valley was made over to the British General, but after the lapse of a few months the whole *jagir* of Sandur was restored to Shiv Rao II by the Collector of Bellary acting under the orders of the Government of Madras (June 1818). In 1826 a formal *sanad* was presented to the *jagirdar* under which the estate of Sandur was conferred on him and his heirs in perpetuity free of all pecuniary demands. The *jagirdar* was invested with full civil, revenue and

criminal powers subject only to his maintaining allegiance to the British Government. Besides making several provisions for the safety of the *Jagirdar's* subjects and for the administration of proper justice, the *sanad* contained a stipulation that for the purpose of ensuring good government to the people of Sandur, the Government of Madras should not fail to interpose whenever there existed any necessity to do so.

Shiv Rao II died in May 1840 leaving behind him an adopted son Venkat Rao, who was the son of his brother Bujang Rao. Venkat Rao's title was acknowledged by the Supreme Government, and a *sanad* was renewed to him in the succeeding year (1841). In 1847 the *Jagirdar* agreed to the establishment of a sanitarium on the elevated spot of Ramandrug for the use of the British Army. The Government agreed to pay to the *Jagirdar* an annual quit-rent for the ground occupied by public as well as private buildings. The Police and Magisterial jurisdiction over the hill was ceded to the British Government and the Criminal Courts of the Bellary District were authorized to extend their jurisdiction over that additional tract.

Venkat Rao died in 1861 and was succeeded by his eldest son Shiv Sanmukh Rao, who owing to his minority was not entrusted with the management of the estate until 1863, when the formal *sanad* of 1841 was renewed in his favour. In 1876 Shiv Sanmukh Rao was honored with the hereditary title of Raja—a title allowed to be assumed by his successors on its being formally recognised by the British Government.

In 1879 Shiv Sanmukh Rao was succeeded by his brother Raja Ramchandra Vithal Rao Saheb, in whose favour too a *sanad* was renewed by the Supreme Government. This *jagir* has been exempted from the payment of any *Nazarana* on succession. The Raja has a brother named Bala Saheb.

Residence.—Sandur, Central Provinces ; Southern India.

SANGLI.

Area.—1,083 sq. miles. Population.—2,38,945.

Revenue.—10,52,099 rupees.

The rulers of this State belong to the same distinguished Konkan Brahmin family of the Patwardhans, as those of Miraj. In 1772, during the minority of Chintaman Rao, his uncle Gangadhar Rao acted as his

Regent; but on the Chief attaining majority the attachment of the uncle for the sceptre has grown so firm, that he could not prevail on himself to let it pass to the rightful holder. So a compromise was brought about, and it was agreed to divide the State between the uncle and the nephew. The State which is the subject of the notice falling to the lot of the latter, Chintaman Rao lived to receive a sword of honor from the East India Company in 1846 for his unflinched loyalty. He died in 1851 when the present Chief Dhundi Rao ascended the *gadi*. In 1873 owing to the general mal-administration of the State an English officer was appointed as Joint Administrator with Dhundi Rao. This management was carried through upto the year 1887, and in the next year, full powers were restored to the Chief on the following conditions :—“(1) That he agreed to follow in all important matters the advice of the Political Agent for the Southern Maratha Country, (2) that he maintained the efficiency of the administration at its present high standard to the satisfaction of the Governor in Council, (3) that he exercised his power of appointing or dismissing the State Karbhari only with the sanction of Government, (4) that he gave a written agreement to the Political Agent to abide by these conditions*. The Chief of this State ranks as a first class Sirdar in the Southern Maratha Country and has power to try his subjects only for capital offences without the express permission of the Political Agent.

Residence.—Sangli, Southern Maratha Country; Bombay Presidency.

SANGRI.

Area.—16 sq. miles. Population.—2,606.

Revenue.—1,500 rupees.

The district originally was comprised within the territories of the Kaju of Kulu whose main possessions were situated on the northern bank of the Sutlej. It was wrested from them by the Gurkhas; but was restored to them on their expulsion in 1815 by the English Government. When the Sikhs conquered the northern portion, the Raja betook himself to the South and died in Sangri in 1841, without any male issue. His uncle Jhagur Singh was recognized as the legal successor, but was superseded in favour of his elder son Ranbir Singh, being found to be utterly

destitute of capacity for government. Ranbir, however, died in 1844, whereupon Jhagur Singh's succession was sanctioned, but the actual management was taken over by the British authorities. He died in 1876 and the succession devolved upon his eldest son Hira Singh. His formal installation was put off for nearly ten years owing to his refusal to accept his proper title of Mian. In 1887, the title of 'Rai' was granted as a mark of hereditary distinction. On the ground of ill-health, he has been permitted to place the State in charge of his son Mian Sansur Singh.

Residence.—Sangri, Punjab; Northern India.

SANJELI.

Area.—33½ sq. miles. Population.—3,002.

Revenue.—18,139 rupees.

After the death of Maharaja Pritharaja, the Chauhan sovereign of Ajmere, the Rajputs of his court took refuge at Mewad, Marwad, and Malwa. One of these Rajput courtiers settled at Songarh, a place situated on the eastern boundary of Mewad. His descendants acquired the name of Songadha. One Mal Deoji flourished in his line who was granted in *jagir* a *paragna* by the Rana of Chitod where he established an independent principality. Mal Deoji's son Chhatra Salji left Chitod and took up his residence at Mandavgarh. The country around was then under the sway of Shahab-ud-Din Ghorî. With a view to please the Moslem sovereign, Chhatra Sal waged a deadly war against Asogand Chohan, the reigning chief of Ashirgarh who had under his command 750 brave invincible Rajputs. Chhatra Sal succeeded in vanquishing the Chauhan chief who with his comrades were made prisoners. It is said that he also subdued one of the Begams who had rebelled against the authority of the Emperor. Chhatra Sal also conquered and made over to the Shah the provinces of Khandesh and Nimad. As a fitting reward for these valuable services the Emperor conferred upon Chhatrasalji the title of Maharaja with other royal insignia and granted him a *paragana* consisting of 700 villages, which is now known by the name of 'Chhasen Chhattisi.'

Chhatrasalji, by degrees, enhanced the territorial extent of his dominions. He marched against Rajpur, and killing the Bhil chieftain

Dungarshi, son of Sursang, seized his capital.¹ He then removed his seat of government to Rajpur where he began to live with his brothers Ranjit Sinhji and Sakhat Sinhji. After Chhatrasal's death, the Chhattisi *gadi* was successively occupied by Nar Sinhji, Prithirajji, Ranchhoddasji, Vaje Sinhji, Abhe Sinhji, Ray Sinhji, Ugra Sinhji, Maha Sinhji. Umed Sinhji, Anup Sinhji, Kanak Sinhji, Kalyan Sinhji, Vagh Sinhji, Moti Sinhji, Gulab Sinhji, Sangram Sinhji, Meghrajaji, Dalil Sinhji, Kushalsinhji, Hari Sinhji, Hamir Sinhji, Lal Sinhji, Gokuldasji, Bhim Sinhji, Ratan Sinhji, Man Sinhji, Dayaldasji, Naval Sinhji, Bhagwandasji, Dhir Sinhji, Khuman Sinhji, Rup Sinhji, Ranmal Sinhji, Indrasalji, Keshavdas, Bil Sinhji and Sardar Sinhji. The last Sardar Sinhji was treacherously murdered by Saheb Sinhji, the Chief of Deogarh Baria, who also seized a portion of his territories. The limits of Sardar Sinhji's domains extended from the river Panam near Baria to Rayania, a village owned by the Raja of Sunth. Even at the present day there is to be seen, in the vicinity of that village, the ruins of a mosque built there during the period of Mahomedan supremacy. The chiefs of Sanjeli were till now entitled to receive the toll duty levied from the cartmen passing by that village, though the village itself forms part of the Sunth territories.

On the death of Sardar Sinhji, his widowed Rani went to her paternal home at Jobat, taking with her, her infant prince named Bahadur Sinhji. On his attaining manhood he collected round him a small army, and after a hard and protracted struggle with Jaswant Sinhji of Baria, succeeded in regaining his patrimony. Bahadur Sinhji ascended the *gadi* in 1796 and continued his struggle with the Raja of Baria who eventually got rid of him. After his death the principality of Rajpur Chhattisi became subordinate to the Baria State. Bahadur Sinhji was succeeded by Jagat Sinhji, who seeing his capital annexed to Baria transferred his seat of Govern-

1 Rajpur is at present under Baria. Dungarsi the Bhil chief of Rajpur had then under him 55 villages. Once upon a time a Brahman went there with his fair daughter to ask for alms. Samalio, the minister of Dungarsi, happening to see the girl was captivated, and he forcibly obtained her from the Brahman and kept her in his house. Dungarsi who was then heir-presumptive to the *gadi*, accidentally saw the fair captive and he longed to have her as his mistress. He took Samalio with him to a hunting excursion and there murdered him. Returning to Rajpur, Dungarsi caused the Brahman girl to be removed to his apartments. The enraged parent went to Chhatra Salji and falling at his feet besought his assistance. He invaded Rajpur and killing Dungarsi and his associates seized the Capital. He ceded the 55 villages to the Ghor Shah.

ment to Sanjeli. He was a brave and a daring prince. His spinal chord was a little longer than the ordinary size, and presented the appearance of a tail. There were also hairs at the end, and Jagat Sinhji came to be recognised by the name of 'Tailed prince' (*Punchhadio Raja*). Disputes went on between him and the Baria Chief regarding certain territories which were terminated by the intervention of the British Government. An agreement was concluded by which it was settled that the Raja of Baria should not meddle with the jurisdiction of the Sanjeli Chief over his own villages. For the surrender of this sovereign power, the Sanjeli Chief should pay to the Raja of Baria a fixed annual tribute. The Raja of Baria agreed to abide by these conditions. In 1858 Jagat Sinhji died without issue, and the British Government expressed their approval to the adoption of Pratap Sinhji, the son of Jit Sinhji, a *Bhayad* of the deceased Thakore. The Political Agent of Rewa Kantha personally repaired to Sanjeli, and installed the new Chief on the *gadi*. Pratap Sinhji is married to a daughter of the Thakore of Varsoda, and by her he has a son named Ranjit Sinhji who has been educated at the Raj Kumar College at Rajkot.

Residence.—Sanjeli, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

SANOSRA.

Area.—13 sq. miles. Population.—1,140.

Revenue.—4,030 rupees.

Dada *alias* Golan, Kathi of the Khachar clan, is the present *Talukdar*. A tribute of Rs. 186 is paid by him to the Baroda State and of Rs. 51 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. He has one independent tribute-payer. The *Talukdar* is enlisted in the sixth class among the chiefs of Kathiawad, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for three months and fine upto Rs. 200, while in civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose of suits to the amount of Rs. 500. Ranosra is 10 miles to the south of Chotila.

Residence.—Sanosra, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

SANTALPUR WITH CHADCHAT.

Area.—240 sq. miles. Population —20,466.

Revenue.—21,000 rupees.

This estate is bounded on the north by the Morwara and Suigam

estates, on the east by the States of Warahi and Radhanpur, and on the south and west by the Run of Kutch.

Santalpur was formerly held by the Turk Mussulmans from Sindh, and it was from them that the Jhalas conquered it. The principal town, Santalpur, was founded by one Santal Jhala. He had married the sister of Lunoji Vaghela, the then chief of Sardhar. Lunoji marched upon Santalpur and conquered it, but it did not remain in his possession for a long time. It was taken from Sukhaji, a descendant of Lunaji, by Rao Khengarji I of Kutch, between the years 1548 and 1585, and was given to his *Bhayads* by way of maintenance.

The other portion of this Taluka—Chadehat—was seized from the Turks by Parmar Rajputs of the Chawad or Chad branch. It began to be known by its present name of Chadchat from that date. After several years it fell into the hands of the Jadeja Rajputs, but five of its villages were wrested from the Jadejas by Vaghela Kanji of Morwada. The greater portion of this Taluka has been distributed among the several *Bhayads*, and of these there are at this day two principal share-holders, who reside in Kutch. One of them Thakore Gaghubha lives in Adesar, and the other Thakore Dev Sinhji stays at Sanwa. Gaghubha holds besides his *jagir* in Kutch, several villages in this Taluka, such as Ghadsai, Kalyanpur, Charanku, Par and Babra. Devi Sinhji likewise has Vauwa, Ranmalpur, Mansamu and Datranu over and above his estate in Kutch. Santalpur proper is held by them both in common. The other villages, besides those mentioned above, are in the possession of the *Bhayads*. Both these Thakores are in the enjoyment of criminal and civil jurisdiction within their territories—the former extending to inflicting sentence of imprisonment with hard labour up to one month, and a fine up to Rs. 50, while the latter to the disposal of suits to the amount of Rs. 250. These Thakores who generally reside at Santalpur have employed their men for the management of their individual estates in this Taluka.

In the town the principal places of interest are the residence of the Thakores and a Vernacular School. A *thandar* is posted there under the control of the Political Superintendent of Palanpur for the general management of affairs and for administering justice to the ryots of the *Bhayati* villages.

Residence.—Adesar and Sanwa, Kutch ; Bombay Presidency.

SARAIKALA.

Area.—448 sq. miles. Population.—93,839.

Revenue.—17,000 rupees.

The rulers of this State are Rajputs and belong to the famous house of Porhat of Orissa. They were styled Kunwars, but their title to being styled Rajas was recognised by the British Government at the end of the last century. The late Raja Chakardhar Sinh Deo received the title of Raja Bahadur for the valuable services rendered by the State in the Bol campaign of 1837. On his death in 1883, the present Raja Uditnarayan Sinh Deo ascended the *gadi*. He pays no tribute to any higher authority.

Residence.—Saraikala, Chhota Nagpur Tributary Mahals; Bengal.

SARANGARH.

Area.— 540 sq. miles. Population.— 83,210.

Revenue.— 46,968 rupees.

This principality is bounded on the north by the Chandrapur chiefship and Raigarh State, on the east by Sambalpur District, on the south by the Phuljhar chiefship, and on the west by Bilaspur District.

This State was acquired by the ancestors of the ruling family, who came from Lanji. No accurate history of this family could be traced from the founder to the late Raja Bhawani Pratap Sinh, who succeeded to the *gadi* in 1872 as a minor. During his minority great disorder prevailed throughout the several departments of administration, and the ryots groaning under oppression applied for protection to the British Government. In 1878 the Government of India assumed the management of the estate dismissing all those old intriguers, who were misappropriating public revenues and harassing the poor ryots. In 1885 the young Chief applied to the Supreme Government for the restoration of his powers as a Feudatory Chief, but the local officers reported that the Raja was quite uneducated, inexperienced and thoroughly incompetent to efficiently carry on the affairs of his State. The management of the estate was therefore continued in the hands of a Special Officer of the rank of Extra Assistant Commissioner.

Bhawani Pratap Sinh died in 1889, and was succeeded by Lal Raghwar Sinh. He dying in 1890 was succeeded by his son Lal Jawahir Sinh, born in 1886. During his nonage the estate is administered by a native officer under the supervision of the Political Agent. The Chief of this State has been granted a *sanad* of adoption, and by a subsequent *sanad* his rights and liabilities as a Feudatory Chief were properly defined.

Residence.—Sarangarh, Central Provinces ; Southern India.

SARGUJA.

Area.—6,055 sq. miles. Population.—3,24,552.

Revenue.—36,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the Mirzapur District and the State of Rewa ; on the east by Lohardanga District ; on the south by Jashpur and Udaipur States ; and on the west by Korea States.

The rulers of this State belong to a Rajput Raksel family. They were overpowered by the Marathas and made to acknowledge the supremacy of the Bhonsles of Berar in 1758. By virtue of an agreement with Madhoji Bhonsle, the State passed under the British protection in 1818. The ruling Chief received at the hands of the British Government the title of Maharaja in 1826. He died in 1851. The late Maharaja Indrajit Deo, who succeeded his father to the *gadi*, died in 1879, whereupon the present Chief Maharaja Raghunath Saran Sinh Deo ascended the *gadi*. He pays a tribute of Rs. 1,881-11-0 to the British Government.

Residence.—Sarguja, Chhota Nagpur ; Bengal.

SARILA.

Area.—35½ sq. miles. Population.—5,622.

Revenue.—48,000 rupees.

At the time of the British occupation of Bundelkhand the fort and the village of Sarila were in the possession of Raja Tej Sinh, great grandson of Maharaja Jagat Raj. He was bereft of all his possessions by Ali Bahadur, and what he then retained was acquired by the help of Raja

Hanmat Bahadur. His possessions yielded him an annual revenue of Rs. 9,000. The British Government, during the pendency of the settlement of the claims which he put forward over certain villages, granted him a pension of Rs. 1,000 a month. In 1807 he received his *sanad* of the villages claimed by him. His successors were Anrodh Sinh and Raja Hindu-pat Sinh. On the death of the latter in 1871, Raja Khalak Sinh was chosen as his successor, being first adopted by the widow of the late Chief. When he died childless in 1882, the Government selected his brother Pahar Sinh. He too was subsequently adopted by the widow of the deceased Raja. The last two were also descended from Maharaja Jagat Raj. The *sanad* of adoption has been granted to the Chiefs of Sarila.

Residence.—Sarila, Bundelkhand ; Central India.

SARWAN.

The Thakores of Sarwan hold certain *inam* villages and lands on service tenure from the Thakores of Sonkhera and Sakat Kheri. Thakore Gopal Sinh used to pay a *tankha* of Rs. 500 for the village of Baraila to Thakore Lakhman Sinh of Sonkhera. The latter proposed to resume the *inam* lands and the village, as no services were required of him, but it was settled that the lands and the village should be left untouched on an enhanced payment of Rs. 700 and a percentage of 12½ on the amount as *batta*. This arrangement was concluded in 1820.

On similar terms the *jagir* held from Bhim Sinh of Sakat Khera was left undisturbed with him.

Man Sinh, who had succeeded his father, died in 1887. His son Amar Sinh is the present *Jagirdar* of Sarwan.

Residence.—Sarwan, Western Malwa Agency; Central India.

SATANONESS.

Area.—67 sq. miles. Population.—199.

Revenue.—950 rupees.

Sadul and Mulu, Ahirs of the Kamalia clan by caste, are the present *Palukdars*. They pay a tribute of Rs. 103 to H. H. the Maharaja of

Baroda and Rs. 6 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The *Talukdars* have two independent tribute-payers. Neither civil nor criminal powers are granted to them. Satanoness is 5 miles distant from Chok.

Residence.—Satanoness, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

SATHAMBA.

Area.—20 sq. miles. Population.—4,799.

Revenue.—7,125 rupees.

The Sirdar of this Taluka belongs to the Baria sect. His ancestors who had originally settled in Sindh, came to Patdi in search of fortune. At the time of the invasion of Gujrat by Alla-ud-Din in 1297, they fled from Patdi towards the east, and sought refuge with the ruling chief of Champaner; who after some time bestowed on them the estate of Baria. After the sack of Champaner and the destruction of the Hindu rule under Patai Raol in 1484, by Mahmud Begada, the ancestors of the family left Baria and came to Sathamba, and acquired for themselves a Taluka which is in the possession of their descendants till the present day.

Vaje Sinhji, the present Thakore, is a fifth class Chief in the Mahi-Kantha Agency. So he is empowered to inflict rigorous imprisonment for six months and fine up to Rs. 250, while in civil cases he hears and disposes of suits to the amount of Rs. 1,000.

Residence.—Sathamba, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

SATLASNA.

Area.—sq. miles. Population.—9,307.

Revenue.—4,071 rupees.

Hari Sinh, Chauhan Koli by caste, is the present Thakore. A tribute of Rs. 2,794-5-2 is paid by him to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda. He is enlisted in the sixth class among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for three months and fine upto Rs. 100, while in civil cases he hears and decides suits to the amount of Rs. 500.

Residence.—Satlasna, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

SATODAR WAORI.

Area.—13 sq. miles. Population.—2,447.

Revenue.—12,000 rupees.

Ram Sinh, Kalubha, Gagaji, and Vaje Sinh, Jadeja Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 1,466 is paid by them to the British Government and of Rs. 461 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. Neither civil nor criminal powers are granted to them. Satodar is 25 miles to the west of Gondal.

Residence.—Satodar, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

SAVANUR.

Area.—90 sq. miles. Population.—16,976.

Revenue.—70,600 rupees.

The powerful Afghan family to which the present Nawab of Savanur belongs has played a splendid role for the last three centuries in the history of India in general and of the Deccan in particular. The members of the family by their prowess secured for themselves vast territories, and by their tact and courtly demeanour the favours of Emperors under very trying circumstances. They raised their dignity and status by their matrimonial connection with the royal houses of Bijapur and Mysore. The first name of some note that occurs in their family history is that of Abdul Karim Khan who received a village in *jagir* from the Emperor of Delhi. Ragti Bahlol left the Mugal service and betook himself to Bijapur, where his grandson, for his distinguished services to the State, received a large *jagir*. His eldest son founded the Nawabship of Kadapa and his fourth son who had won the fair hand of the royal princess succeeded to the family estate. In 1680 Abdul Rauf Khan on the fall of the Adil Shahi dynasty was deputed to discharge the delicate function of handing over the insignia of royalty of the conquered dynasty to the victor, Emperor Aurangzeb. So complete was the service of the mission, that the Emperor bestowed on him several *jagirs*, the coveted title of Daul Khan Bahadoor Diler Jang and a *Masnab* of 7,000 horse. He died in 1715. His grandson Abdul Majid Khan who was at the head of the estate between 1722 and 1757 raised the estate to a power of the very first rank. He fell in an action with Muzaffar Jang, the Subedar of the Deccan. His son Abdul

Hakim Khan had to face the powerful military adventurer Haidar Ali of Mysore; but their differences were made up by his accepting the daughter of Haidar Ali in marriage for his son, and his sovereignty being confirmed by the Sultan on condition of military service. Tipu broke the stipulation, and invaded his territory, whereupon he sought help from the Peshwa's government. In 1787 a treaty was concluded, and the *jagir* was restored by Tipu Sultan. A pension from the Peshwa was subsequently converted into a grant of territory. He died in 1792. His grandson Abdul Dalel Khan Sahib was appointed a member of the Legislative Council at Bombay in 1862. He died in the same year. The late Nawab Abdul Dalel Khan succeeded to the *gadi* in 1868. He was educated at the Rajaram College, and was a very promising Chief. He unfortunately was cut off in the prime of his life in 1884. The present Chief Nawab Abdul Tabriz Khan succeeded him to the *gadi*. He has been entrusted with the administration of his State and is now 31 years of age.

Residence.—Savanur, Dharwar District; Bombay Presidency.

• SAYLA.

Area.—222 sq. miles. Population.—16,981.

Revenue.—65,000 rupees.

The rulers of Sayla are Jadeja Rajputs claiming relationship with the Raj Saheb of Dhrangadra. In the fifteenth century it was under the sway of the Rajputs of the Chabad race. In the beginning of the eighteenth century when the Mughal Empire was reduced to a tottering condition, it passed into the hands of the Kathis belonging to the Karpad and Khavad families, from whom it was acquired by Jhala Sensabhai in 1751. He established his capital there, and to this day his descendants are ruling over Sayla and its adjacent territories. Sensabhai was the second son of Raj Raya Sinhji of Halwad (modern Dhrangadra), who was reigning there in 1730. He had six sons, Gaj Sinhji, Sensabhai, Ajabhai, Kasalbai, Nathubhai and Ashabhai. The Raj Saheb adopted the policy of curtailing the *jagirs* of the members of the junior branches of his family and granting smaller estates to his younger sons. This departure from the ordinary custom obtaining in other States was resented by all the cadets, who went into out-lawry against him, but the more remarkable fact was that they were secretly supported by the heir-apparent,

a fact indicative of the conservative instincts of the race. They put themselves under the head of the second son Sensabhai who was a brave and fearless swordsman. When Raj Raya Sinhji saw that even the heir-apparent was arrayed against him, he gave up his original idea, and summoning the younger sons to his presence granted to each of them large and rich estates. Sensabhai, however, continued to be an outlaw refusing to accept the estates promised him by his royal father. At length he was satisfied by the grant of Narchana to him.

Raja Ray Sinhji expired in 1746, and was succeeded by Gaj Sinhji. He married Jijiba, a Chavda princess of Varsoda in Mahi Kantha. But as Raj Gaj Sinhji was totally under the influence of his younger brother Sensabhai, she returned to her paternal home with her children. The trust reposed in him was misplaced, and he was bent on dethroning his elder brother as was evident from the large army that he had mustered. Poor Gaj Sinhji, when he was apprized of the wicked intentions of his faithless and ungrateful brother, fled to Rana Kalabhai of Bawli, who was his uncle, and returned to Halwad escorted by his retainers. Sensabhai occupied Dhrangadra and prepared to give battle. When the news of her husband's difficulties travelled over to Varsoda, Jijiba with her son Jasant Sinhji came up to his aid, securing on her way the assistance and co-operation of the officers stationed at Dholka and Virangam. She was not then able to regain Dhrangadra, but at last it was recovered from Sensabhai with the support of the Peshwa's agent Bhagwant Rao, who had come there for the purpose of exacting tribute, and of Babi Kamaludin Khanji *alias* Jawan Mardan Khan II.—the Nawab of Radhanpur.

When Dhrangadra was in the possession of Sensabhai, the Kathis of Sayla espoused the cause of Jijiba and fought on her side. For thus siding with his opponent they were attacked by Sensabhai, and were deprived of Sayla in 1751. At about the same period he reduced the neighbouring districts which formed part of Sayla, and there set up an independent chieftdom.

The gallantry of Sensabhai is immortalized by the bards in many an imperishable verse, of which one was recited to Jadeja Jasoji of Kotda-Sangani who spoke contemptuously both of the bard who recited it as well as of Sensabhai. When this incident was reported to him, he was thrown into a violent fit of passion, and inciting the Kathis of Anandpur and Bhimpur to attack Jasoji, he marched with them in person to avenge the

insult. A sanguinary battle was fought between them at Rajpipla, eight miles to the east of Kotda, in which the Jadeja and his brother Sartanji were slain (1755).

When Prince Jaswant Sinhji ascended the throne in 1782, the court of the Raj Sahebs was transferred from Halwad to Dhrangadra. Once upon a time, during his reign, several Kathis assembled together and drove away the cattle of Dhrangadra. They were hotly pursued by a chosen band under the lead of Sensabhai, who succeeded in redeeming the purloined cattle, though he received several wounds in the action that ensued. This service was rewarded by a handsome grant of the estate of Liya from Raj Jaswant Sinhji.

Sensabhai died in 1794 leaving five sons, Vikmatji *alias* Kakabhai, Jibhai, Dadobhai, Kalobhai and Vajobhai, of whom the eldest Vikmatji ascended the *gadi*. He had four sons, Madar Sinhji, Jethibhai, Alubhai and Hathibhai. He bestowed the estate of Liya on his brothers Jibhai, Kalobhai and Dadobhai jointly, and divided the estate of Narichana between his fourth brother Vajobhai and two of his younger sons Jethibhai and Alubhai. His reign was a period of unbroken tranquillity altogether free from contests and disturbances. Upon his death in 1813 his eldest son Madar Sinhji came to the *gadi*. He had five sons, the eldest of whom Atoji died during his life-time. Khatdi and Naldhari were assigned to the other four Hathibhai, Chandobhai, Bharoji and Raya Sinhji. Madar Sinhji died in 1837 and was succeeded by his second son Sensabhai II., who was more familiarly known by the name of 'Bapji.' After a short rule of two years, he died in 1839. He had two sons, Keshari Sinhji who sat on the *gadi*, and Hari Sinhji to whom Ayaderi was granted in appanage. Keshari Sinhji was both courteous and virtuous. His reign was marked by several improvements in agriculture, which resulted in the rise of the land-revenue of the State. He spent *lakhs* of rupees on the marriages of his daughters, Bai Sahebba with Jam Shri Vibhaji of Nawanagar, Maji Rajba with Prince Madhav Sinhji of Porbandar, Keshaba and Bai Rajba with Bawajiraj of Rajkot, Hamjiba with Waghji of Morbi and Ramba with the prince of Ruwa. One incident of his reign worth noting was the outlawry of Motobhai and Nanobhai, the *girasius* of Liya, arising from some disputes about their estate in 1866. They struck great terror among his subjects cutting the ears and noses of some, and taking the lives of others. At last they were taken alive, tried by the Political Agent and sentenced to a life-long imprisonment.

Thakore Shri Keshari Sinhji after enjoying a peaceful reign of 44 years breathed his last in 1882. His son, Wakhat Sinhji, ascended the *gadi* and is the present Thakore Saheb of Sayla. Out of his six sons, the eldest Madar Sinhji has received his education at the Rajkumar College at Rajkot, and the others Kalyan Sinhji, Mehrubhai, Devi Sinhji, Vaje Sinhji and Bhav Sinhji have been sent to the Girasia School at Wadhwan. In 1883 the Thakore Saheb spent a large sum in celebrating the marriage of his daughter Motiba with Maharao Shri Khengarji of Kutch.

Sayla is a third class state, and its rulers are invested with the powers of a third class chief; so they are empowered to inflict rigorous imprisonment for seven years and fine upto Rs. 10,000. In civil cases they hear and decide suits to the amount of Rs. 20,000.

Residence.—Sayla, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

SEJAKPUR.

Area.—29 sq. miles. Population.—1,731.

Revenue.—5,325 rupees.

Punja, Desa and Odha, Kathis of the Khachar clan are the present *Talukdars*. A tribute of Rs. 316½ is paid by them to the British Government and of Rs. 116 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. They have three independent tribute-payers. Neither civil nor criminal powers are granted to them. Sejakpur* is 10 miles to the east of Chotila.

Residence.—Sejakpur, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

SEVDIVADAR.

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—246.

Revenue.—975 rupees.

Amraji, Kathi of the Khasia clan is the present *Talukdar*. A tribute of Rs. 52 is paid by him to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and of Rs. 8 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. He has one

* Sejakpur was founded by Sejakji Gohel, the ancestor of the houses of Bhavnagar, Palitana, Lathi &c. in Kathiawad; and Rajpipla in Rewa Kantha.

independent tribute-payer. Neither civil nor criminal powers are enjoyed by the *Talukdars*. Sevdivadar is 5 miles to the south of Chok.

Residence.—Sevdivadar, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

SHAHPUR.

Area.—10 sq. miles. Population.—1,237.

Revenue.—6,500 rupees.

This *Taluka* was received, in *giras*, by Kalyanji, the third son of Meheramanji II., the Thakore of Rajkot. Gagubha, his descendant, Jadeja Rajput by caste, is the present *Talukdar*. A tribute of Rs. 464 is paid by him to the British Government and of Rs. 146 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. He has one independent tribute-payer. The *Talukdar* is enlisted in the sixth class among the chiefs of Kathiawad, so in criminal cases he is entitled to inflict punishment of imprisonment for three months with hard labour and fine upto Rs. 200, while in civil matters he hears and decides suits to the amount of Rs. 500. Shahpur is 9 miles to the south of the Rajkot Railway Station.

Residence.—Shahpur, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

SHAHPURA.

Area.—400 sq. miles. Population.—63,645

Revenue.—2,89,000 rupees.

The chiefship of Shahpura as at present constituted consists of the *paragnas* of Kharar and Khachola in Mewad and the *paragna* of Phulia in Ajmere; the former was received by Suraj Mal in appanage from the Rana of Udaipur, while the latter was acquired by Suraj Mal's son from the Emperor Shah Jahan in reward for his gallant services in the field. Thus the status of the Chief is two-fold—that of being a feudatory Chief both of the Maharana of Udaipur and of the British Government as the inheritors of the Mughal Empire. Phulia was abandoned in favour of the newly-founded Shahpura as the head-quarters of the family. The chiefs of Shahpura who are styled 'Rajadhiraj' belong to the Sisodiya Rajput clan.

Ten generations of Chiefs enjoyed the fief acquired by Suraj Mal, the late Raja Lachhman Singh, who died in 1869, being the tenth.

The amount payable to the British Government is fixed at Rs. 10,000 by a *sarad* dated 1848. The sum is liable to be reduced to Rs. 2,000 on performance of a certain condition stated therein.

The death of Raja Lachhman Singh was followed by a great *khatput* in connection with the succession. A son of the Thakore of Bishnia was put forward as being adopted by the late Chief on his death-bed. The alleged adoption could not stand the test of inquiry, and consequently one Nahar Singh of Dhunop was recognized by the Government in consultation with the wishes of the Thakores.

At this juncture the Udaijir Darbar claimed to be consulted as the liege-lord in the matter of succession, but the Supreme Government intimated, in reply, that it had no voice in the matter and that its legitimate demands on the State can only be upheld.

Raja Nahar Singh was born in 1855, and subsequently in 1875 he was placed in independent charge of the State. A son born to him in 1876 is named Umed Singh.

The Chiefs of Shahpura enjoy civil and criminal jurisdiction in the *paragna* of Phulia except as regards grave and heinous crimes which they try in consultation and with the advice of the Political Agent at Haraoti, to whose charge the State was transferred in 1869 from the contrl of the Commissioner of Ajmere.

In 1882 an agreement was come to with the State for the suppression of the manufacture and sale of Khari Salt.

The *paragnas* of Khair and Khachola which the chiefs of Shahpura hold under Udaipur, consist of 74 villages yielding an annual revenue of Rs. 35,000 with a population of 16,000: the tribute payable to that Darbar is fixed at Rs. 3,000.

Residence.—Shahpura, Haraoti Agency; Rajputana.

SHAJAOTA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—800.

Revenue.—15,000 rupees.

The present Thakore of Shajaota, Thakore Kurhal Singh, is the grand-

son of Thakore Raghunath Sinh, with whom the settlement was effected. On the payment of Rs. 3,303 to the Nawab of Jaora, the Thakores are to hold the villages of Shajaota, Salakhera and Piplia with the Dami and Sayar rights.

Residence.—Shajaota, Western Malwa Agency ; Central India.

SHANOR.

Area.—3½ sq. miles. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—16,332 rupees.

This State was founded in 1669 by Sabal Sinhji, the son of Vagh Sinh, the chief of Mandwa. Khusal Sinh, Khichi Chauhan Rajput, by caste is the present Thakore. He pays Rs. 1,578 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda as a tribute. In criminal cases he is entitled to inflict punishment of imprisonment for one month with hard labour and fine upto Rs. 50, while in civil cases he has no powers. Nahar Sinh is the name of the Heir-Apparent. Shanor is about 9 miles distant from the Chandod Railway Station.

Residence.—Shanor, Rewa Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

SHEOGARH.

Thakore Moti Sinh, the present holder, belongs to a Khichi Rajput family—being a branch of the Kalukhera family. He succeeded his father Saheb Sinh in 1866.

The Thakores receive *tankhas* to the amount of Rs. 3,823 from Sindhia and Holkar.

Residence.—Sheogarh, Western Malwa Agency ; Central India.

SIDRI.

The possession of this village by the family long anterior to the establishment of the Jaora chiefship, was legalized by the grant of a *sannad* in 1824 to the then holder Thakorelal. He died in 1863 ; his successor Gopal Sinh died in 1886. The present holder is Gordhan Sinh. The holders belong to the Banya caste.

Residence.—Sidri, Western Malwa Agency ; Central India.

THE HIND RAJASTHAN.

SIHORA.

Area.—14 miles. Population.—4,000.

Revenue.—22,188 rupees.

The ancestors of the Chief of this Taluka were by birth Rajputs of the Parmar race. A Sardar in their line, Hopoji, accepted service under the Chief of Champaner and set out on a pilgrimage to Dwarka; on his way thither he married the daughter of Kashi Baria of Arjanpur. Eighteen villages including Sanali were given in dowry at the time of the marriage. Thus he joined the Baria community by this connection. He remained at Sanali and began to hold his court there. One Lavoji flourished in his line, whose widow Dhaniba repairing to Sihora on the death of the Chavada Thakore in 1479, seized the estate and placed her son Waghoji on the *gadi*. The present Chief Narvar Sinhji, thirteenth in descent from him, ascended the *gadi* in his child-hood in 1884 upon the death of his father Nahar Sinhji. Owing to his minority, the Chief has been sent to the Rajkumar College, and the Taluka is put under the management of the British Agency. The Chief pays a tribute of Rs. 4,801 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda through the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha.

Residence.—Sihora, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

SILLANA.

Area.—4 sq. miles. Population.—691.

Revenue.—4,000 rupees.

Mamaiya and Hathia, Kathis of the Vala clan are the present Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 102 is paid by them to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda. They have two independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them. Sillana is 13 miles distant from the Kunkav Railway Station.

Residence.—Sillana, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

SINDHIAPURA.

Area.—2½ sq. miles. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—2,500 rupees.

Jita Bawa, Chauhan Molesalam Girasia by caste, is the present Chief.

He pays Rs. 57 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda as a tribute. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by him. The estate has been under the management of the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha the owing to insanity of the Chief since 1870.

Residence.—Sindhiapura, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

SINGHANA.

The present Chief of Singhana, Daryao Sinh, is the grandson of Anup Sinh, with whom the settlement was concluded, and the nephew of the late Chief Bakhtawar Sinh who died in 1871.

The settlement entitled the Chief to a payment of Rs. 352 from Sindhia and Holkar. The claim against Sindhia is now transferred to the British Government, a sum of Rs. 56 only is paid to the Chief as the Holkar's share.

Residence.—Singhana, Indore Agency; Central India.

SIRSI.

The *jagir* of Sirsi originated in a grant by the Gwalior Darbar to one Bharat Sinh in 1820 of the three-fourths revenue of the district on condition of paying over the remainder and duly discharging the duty of reducing to submission the turbulent *girasias*. In 1837, Jankoji Rao Sindhia renewed the *sanad* to Diwan Hindu Sinh under a British guarantee on some altered conditions, the payment of the one-fourth revenue being commuted into the supply of a contingent of thirty *sawars* (horse-men) and seventy footmen.

The successor of Hindu Sinh died in 1872 ; thereupon the succession of his son Bijaji Sinh, a child of seven years, was recognized. The administration of the *jagir* was carried on by a *Karbhari* under the supervision of the Assistant Political Agent at Guna. Bijaji Sinh was placed in charge of his *jagir* in 1886, and his death took place in 1891.

As he left no issue, his brother Kunwar Meherban Sinh was recognized as the *Jagirdar* of Sirsi by the British Government and the Gwalior

Darbar, no *nazarana* being claimed by either of the two governments on the occasion.

Residence.—Sirsi, Gwalior Agency; Central India.

SISANG—CHANDLI.

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—1,712.

Revenue.—7,500 rupees.

This Taluka was received in appanage by Ranmalji, the second son of Vibhaji, the Jam of Nawanagar. Naran Sinh, Pachanji, Bapubhai, Chandra Sinh, his descendants, and Dosaji, Jadeja Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. A tribute of Rs. 720 is paid by them to the British Government and of Rs. 226 to the Junagarh State as *Zortulbi Hakka*. They have 5 independent tribute-payers. Neither civil nor criminal powers are granted to them. Out of the share-holders some reside at Sisang and some at Chandli.

SOHAWAL.

Area.—300 sq. miles. Population.—43,853.

Revenue.—1,00,000 rupees.

In the middle of the sixteenth century this chiefship was established on an independent footing by Raja Fateh Sinh; he threw off the allegiance of his father Raja Amar Sinh of Rewa within whose territories Sohawal was originally included. It subsequently passed under the authority of the Panna Raja. But on the British occupation of Bundelkhand a separate *sanad* was granted to Rai Lal Aman Sinh, the Chief of Sohawal, in 1809. He was however required to pass a deed of allegiance to the British Government. The Chief entrusted the management to his eldest son Raghunath Sinh, but the charge of the State was taken over by the British authorities in 1830 to pay off certain State debts. When the State was restored to the old chief his eldest son had died. Consequently in 1840 he resigned the cares of the management to his second son Sheo Sinh, who was recognized by the Government in 1843. He too proved to be equally extravagant, and the State liabilities rapidly increased to a

heavy charge. The Government had again to take up the affairs of the State into their hands to extricate it from the debts in 1845.

Raja Sheo Sinh survived his eldest son Indrajit who died in 1856 ; so he was succeeded in 1865 by his grandson Sher Jang Bahadur Sinh. At the time of his succession he was a minor and was placed in independent management of the State in 1871. In 1879, the title of Raja was conferred on him by way of personal distinction. The Government have conceded to the chiefs of Sohawal the right of adoption.

Residence.—Sohawal, Baghelkhand ; Central India.

SONGARH.

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—1,181.

Revenue.—2,000 rupees.

Kalubhai, Tejaji and Khodabhai, Gohel Rajputs by caste, are the present *Talukdars*. A tribute of Rs. 503 is paid by them to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and of Rs. 69 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. They have three independent tribute-payers. Neither civil nor criminal powers are enjoyed by the *Talukdars*. There is a British Civil Station near the village of Songarh, the area of which is 300 acres, and for which an annual rent of Rs. 300 is paid to the *Talukdars* by the British Government. Within the limits of the Station are the dwellings of the Assistant Political Agent and Deputy Assistant Agent. There is a *thana* (Police) building, Hospital, court houses, Library, and an excellent garden. In Songarh there is a Vernacular School, Post Office, Travellers' bungalow, English school and *Dharamshala* (caravansary). The village of Songarh is situated on the banks of the river Utavali. Songarh is Station on the Bhavnagar-Gondal Railway.

Residence.—Songarh, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

SONPUR.

Area.—906 sq. miles. Population.—1,95,245.

Revenue.—76,346 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by Sambalpur District, on the

east by Rairakhol, on the south by Bod, and on the west by Patna States.

The family of the Sonpur Chief is one of the principal offshoots of the old ruling house of Sambalpur. Nildhar Sinh Deo who ascended the *gadi* in 1840, when he was an infant aged one year, received in reward for his services to the British Government the personal title of Bahadur. After the lapse of a few years, serious complaints were brought to the notice of the Supreme Government regarding the harsh and unjust measures by which land-holders were summarily evicted from their permanent holdings and several other acts of general mismanagement. The Chief was advised to employ as his Diwan a competent officer to assist him in the proper management of State affairs. A British officer of the rank of Tehsildar was accordingly appointed Diwan, who carried on the administration under the supervision of the Political Agent. Nildhar Sinh Deo Bahadur died on 11th September 1891, and was succeeded by his eldest son, the present Chief, Raja Pratap Rudra Sinh Deo.

In 1865 the Chief was granted two *sanads*, one of which conferred on him the right of adoption, while the other defined his position as a feudatory prince.

• The Chief of this State pays a tribute of Rs. 9,000.

Residence.—Sonpur, Feudatory States; Central Provinces.

SUDAMDA-DHANDHALPUR.

Area.—135 sq. miles. Population.—7,431.

Revenue.—39,236 rupees.

This petty State was founded in 1790 by Khavadji, the brother of Godad Khavad. Bhan, Jiwa, Dewa, Visa, Khoda, Godad, his descendants, Kathis of the Khavad clan, are the present share-holders. A tribute of Rs. 2,381 is paid by them to the British Government and of Rs. 743 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. They have six independent tribute-payers. Sudamda is 13 miles to the west of the Chuda Railway Station, and Dhandhalpur is 23 miles distant from the same Station. Some of the share-holders reside at Sudamda and some at Dhandhalpur.

SUDASNA.

Area.—40 sq. miles. Population.—6,767.

Revenue.—8,142 rupees.

This estate was granted to Jasvaji, the brother of Rana Gaj Sinh of Danta. He had five sons, of whom the eldest Sardar Sinhji succeeded him. Umed Sinhji, the heir-apparent, being slain in a battle during the life-time of his father, Amar Sinhji, the grandson, succeeded him to the *gadi*. He seized Khilad, a district of Danta, and at one time during the reign of Rana Karanji occupied with his forces Danta itself. Takhat Sinhji, the present Chief, is his lineal representative. He is a fifth class Chief in the Mahi Kantha Agency, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for six months and a fine of Rs. 250. In civil cases he is competent to hear and decide suits to the amount of Rs. 1,000.

Residence.—Sudasna, Mahi Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

SUIGAM.

Area.—220 sq. miles. Population.—11,521.

Revenue.—10,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north and east by Wao State ; on the south by Chadchat State ; and on the west by Salt Desert or Run.

The Talukdar of Suigam is a Chauhan Rajput descended from the same stock as the Thakore of Wao. While Wao was in the possession of Sangoji, his younger son Pachanji, leaving his paternal estate, founded the village of Suigam in the year 1569. The village was named after Sui, a Rabari (Cowherd). Raj Sinh, one of the descendants of Pachanji, seized Sanoti with its five villages from Anjana Chauhan, and likewise appropriated Kumbharka and other villages then in the hands of the Jats, and consolidated a small Taluka, which goes by the name of Suigam.

The chief share-holders in this Taluka are Bhupat Sinhji and Nar Sinhji, both Rajputs of the Chauhan tribe. They exercise criminal jurisdiction within their estate extending to inflicting rigorous imprisonment up to one month, and a fine upto Rs. 50, while their civil jurisdiction is limited to the disposal of suits to the amount of Rs. 250.

Residence.—Suigam, Palanpur Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

SUTALIA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—5,067.

Revenue.—20,000 rupees.

Balwant Sinh, the *Jagirdar* of Sutalia, concluded the settlement, by which a *tunkha* of Rs. 3,400 has become payable to the Raja of Rajgarh under whom twelve villages are held on lease by the *Jagirdar*. Mukun Sinhji and Sheodhan Sinh succeeded him. On the death of Sheodhan Sinh in 1881 Madho Sinh became the *Jagirdar*. The present *Jagirdar* Shambhu Sinh succeeded his father in 1886. His grandmother was appointed manager to administer the affairs of the *jagir* during his minority.

Residence.—Sutalia, Bhopal Agency ; Central India.

TAJPURI.

Area.—16½ sq. miles. Population.—2,238.

Revenue.—3,740 rupees.

Moti Sinh, Parmar Koli by caste, is the present Thakore. A tribute of Rs. 699-4-6 is paid by him to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and of Rs. 186-3-7 to the Idar State as *Khichadi Hakka*. He is enlisted in the sixth class among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for three months, and a fine upto Rs. 100, while in civil cases he is competent to hear and dispose of suits to the amount of Rs. 500.

Residence.—Tajpuri, Mahi Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

TALCHER.

Area.—399 sq. miles. Population.—52,674.

Revenue.—31,163 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by Pal Lahara, on the east by Dhenkanal, and on the south and west by the Angul estate.

The State was founded by Narhari Sinh, who came from Ayodhya and succeeded in subjugating the aborigines of Orissa. Raja Ayadi, who was the seventeenth in the line, assumed the style of Birbar Harichandan

Mahipatra, since borne by all the successors to the *gadi*. Raja Dayanidhi received at the hands of the British Government the title of Raja Bahadur for services rendered in putting down a disturbance in Angul. The State passed under British rule in 1803. The present Chief is Raja Kishori Chandra Birbar Hari Chandan, who pays a tribute of Rs. 1,039-10-5 to the Paramount Power. The Raja being a minor, the management of the State is under the British Government.

Residence.—Talcher, Orissa Tributary Mahals; Bengal.

TAL.

In 1821 and 1822 two engagements were mediated between the Jaora State and Chandar Sinh, the Thakore of Tal. The former engagement secured to the Thakore the villages of Karwakheri and Melakheri on an *istimarari* tenure, while the latter one entitled him to the *Dami* and other dues in the Tal *paragna*. His unguaranteed possession is a *jagiri* village Lasuria Surajmal in the same *paragna*.

The successors of Thakore Chandar Sinh were his son and grandson Jait Sinh and Lachhman Sinh, who died respectively in 1853 and 1859. The present Thakore Unkar Sinh, the nephew of the late Thakore Lachhman Sinh, was a minor at the time of his succession.

The heavy debts into which the improvidence of the Thakore involved him, constrained him to seek the assistance of the Jaora Darbar, who, in 1889, took over the management of the estate in order to pay off the debts. The Government, when the arrangement was brought to their notice, refrained from interfering with it.

Residence.—Tal, Western Malwa Agency; Central India.

TALSANA.

Area.—43 sq. miles. Population.—3,661.

Revenue.—22,922 rupees.

Veraji and Dhir Sinh, Jhala Rajputs by caste, are the present Talukdars. They pay a tribute of Rs. 913 to the British Government and of Rs. 139 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The Talukdars have

two independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are granted to them. Talsana lies ten miles to the south-east of Lakhtar.

Residence.—Talsana, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

TAPPA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—487.

Revenue.—3,000 rupees.

In 1822, Maharaja Daulat Rao Sindhia made this grant to Thakore Rup Sinh. The estate comprises twelve villages in the Songarh *paragna* of His Highness' territory.

The family of Thakore Rup Sinh enjoyed the estate till 1865, when the death of Thakore Kishor Sinh terminated the direct line. The Gwalior Darbar, however, was gracious enough to accede to the proposal of the female members of the family to be allowed to adopt Takhat Sinh, a distant relation, on condition of payment of certian *nuzarana*. The Government sanctioned the succession of the adopted member in 1877, when the estate was made over to him.

Residence.—Tappa, Bhopal Agency ; Central India.

TAROCH.

Area.—70 sq. miles. Population.—3,938.

Revenue.—6,000 rupees.

The Chief of Taroch was a subordinate vassal of the Sirmur State ; and consequently when the State passed to the British Government the allegiance of Taroch was transferred also. At that time, Karam Sinh was nominally at the head of it, but in consequence of his old age, the affairs were really under the direction of his brother Jhobu. On the death of Karam Sinh in 1819, a *sanad* under the hand and seal of the Agent to the Governor General recognized Jhobu and his heirs in supersession of the male descendants of Karam Sinh. The state of affairs which had in its favour the seal and the sanction of the *sanad* continued unquestioned till 1838, when Ranjit Sinh began to press his claims supported by a powerful party.

To terminate this unpleasant and inconvenient point, the Government had resort to the expediency of compelling Jhobu's abdication in

favour of his son Syam Sinh. He proved incapable, and the object of silencing the claims of rightful heirs was frustrated, and the difficulty of the situation was enhanced by the additional intrigues of the deposed Chief. In 1841 Syam Sinh was deposed and the State was placed under British management.

The Government of India rectified their mistake in 1843 by a straightforward recognition of Ranjit and his heirs. He was required to enter into an agreement with the usual conditions of vassalage, and a payment of Rs. 280 in the place of the supply of the *begari* contingent. Ranjit Sinh died in 1871, and his grandson Kidar Sinh, then a minor, succeeded him in 1884. He was placed in independent charge of his estate.

Residence.—Taroch, Punjab ; Northern India.

TAVI.

• Area.—12 sq. miles. Population.—777.

Revenue.—2,711 rupees.

Keshari Sinh and Himat Sinh, Jhala Rajputs by caste, are the present *Talukdars*. A tribute of Rs. 310 is paid by them to the British Government and of Rs. 25 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. They have two independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by them. Tavi is 14 miles to the east of the Wadhwan Civil Station.

Residence.—Tavi, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

TEJPURA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—512.

Revenue.—4,350 rupees.

Jethaji and Tejaji, Makwana Kolis by caste, are the present *Thakores*. A tribute of Rs. 308-6-11 is paid by them to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda. They are enlisted in the seventh class among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha, so they are empowered, in criminal cases, to inflict punishment for one month with hard labour and to fine Rs. 50, while in

civil matters they have the right of hearing and disposing of suits to the amount of Rs. 250.

Residence.—Tejpura, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

TERA.

This *Taluka* was purchased from its Jadeja holder by Rao Shri Desalji of Kutch in 1845. It then comprised within it 10 villages and yielded an annual income of Rs. 5,000 only. Several villages were purchased subsequently and added to this *Taluka* which prospered under the rule of the Kutch Sovereign. In 1847, he granted in perpetuity the *Taluka* with the villages subsequently added to it, to his second son Hamir Sinhji. It then yielded Rs. 10,000 a year, and the management was carried on by Rao Desalji till his death which occurred in 1861. From that date the sole charge of the estate was entrusted to Hamirji, then a youth of 20 years, properly educated under the care of his royal father. He managed the affairs satisfactorily, and enhanced the revenues of his estate by settling new villages and granting liberal concessions to the cultivators. This *Taluka* now yields an annual income of Rs. 75,000. Prince Hamirji holds it under the British guarantee. For ensuring justice to his subjects, he has divided his *Taluka* into six minor divisions, and has appointed Revenue, Judicial and Police officers to look after the affairs of each of these divisions. He has established several Vernacular schools and opened libraries at principal places within his estate. Hamirji is the uncle of Maharajadhiraj Khengarji, Sawai Bahadur, the present Maha Rao of Kutch. Hamirji has two sons and one daughter. The eldest son, Rayadhanji, has taken liberal education both in English and Gujarati languages.

Residence.—Tera, Kutch; Bombay Presidency.

TERWARA.

Area.—125 sq. miles. Population.—8,846.

Revenue.—12,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by Diodar, on the east by Kankrej, on the south by Radhanpur, and on the west by Bhabhar.

The Thakores of Terwara are Mussalmans of the Beluch tribe. It was formerly in the hands of the Vaghela Rajput chief of the Bhilodia

branch, but in the days of the Mahomedan Sultans of Ahmedabad it was conquered by the two great warriors of Gujarat, Fattah Khan Baluch and Rustam Khan, along with Radhanpur, Sami, Mujpur, Kankrej, Morbi, Santalpur and Tharad. They subsequently lost all these *Talukas* except Terwara. It was again, in the middle of the 18th century, wrested from the hands of the Beluch chief by Nawab Kamal-ud-Din Khan of Radhanpur. It remained in the hands of the Babi for some years, when it was regained by the Beluches. It is even now in their hands, and the present holders claim their descent from the original Beluch founders. The Nawabs of Radhanpur allege that they formerly occupied the subordinate position of mere sepoys, who subsequently rose to the rank of *Talukdars*. This allegation is, however, contradicted by many authorities which support the claims of the present *Talukdars*. This *Taluka* was formerly a very extensive one, but owing to the weakness of its chiefs, several villages under it were encroached upon by the neighbouring Koli and other *Talukdars*.

The present Thakore Nathu Khanji is a Beluch Mussalman. He inherited the paternal estate on the demise of his father Beluch Khanji. His criminal jurisdiction extends to the passing of sentence of imprisonment with hard labour upto one month, and to the imposition of fine upto Rs. 50 ; in civil matters he is entitled to hear and dispose of suits to the amount of Rs. 250.

Residence.—Terwara, Palanpur Agency; Bombay Presidency.

THARAD.

Area.—940 sq. miles. Population.—65,494.

Revenue.—93,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by the Marwad District of Sacor ; on the east by Palanpur State ; on the south by Bhabhar and Terwara States ; and on the west by Wao State.

Tharad was formerly governed by the Rajput kings of the Parmar tribe, and even to-day many Rajputs of the Suwar and Kalina branches of that clan are to be found in this *Taluka*. It appears from some of the chronicles that the last of the Parmar kings was a Jain by religion, who entrusting his State to the care of his nephew, the Chauhan Chief of Nadol, became a Jain Sadhu (took the holy orders). Some legends relate

that this Chauhan prince murdered his uncle and usurped his throne assuming the title of Rana. One, Rana Punjaji, flourished in his line of descent, who was defeated by the Mussalmans from Multan. Their Chief snatched from him his principality, and began to rule there with the title of Diwan. It is said that Tharad was conquered either by Shahab-ud-Din Ghorî between the years 1174 and 1206, or by Kutub-ud-Din Ibak between 1206 and 1210. The Multani Mussalmans were much impoverished by their constant struggles with the neighbouring powers. When the Multanis first conquered Tharad from the hands of Punjaji, his wife, a Sodhi Rani, fled to Parkar taking with her her minor son Vajaji. She returned and settled in the western portion of Tharad, and founding the village of Wao, stayed there with her followers in 1244. She made inroads upon the Multanis, and recovered some portion of her lost territories, and consolidating it into a small principality named it Tharad minor (Wao), and began to rule there in the name of her minor son.

In 1403, when the Mussalman viceroys established an independent kingdom in Gujarat, these Multanis accepted service under the Sultans. The last of them, Fattah Khan Beluch, was ranked among the Sardars at the Court of the kings of Gujarat. He was entrusted with the management of Terwara, Radhanpur and Tharad. When the Jhaloris were expelled from Jhalor in 1699 by Maharaja Ajit Singhji of Jodhpur, they went and settled at Palanpur. Mujahid Khan, the son of Firoz Khan, took possession of Tharad, but it did not remain in his hands for a long time, as Babi Mahmud Sher, the Nawab of Radhanpur, deprived him of it, and annexed it to his dominions. When the Mughal Emperor of Delhi appointed Maharaja Abhaya Singhji of Jodhpur to the viceroyalty of Gujarat, he drove away the Babi from Tharad, and placed it in charge of a Nayak. In 1736, Jetmalji of the Wao Chauhan family was appointed *thandar* of Tharad. Vajroji, the then head of the Wao family, growing apprehensive of Jetmalji's influence, besought the assistance of the Diwan of Palanpur against the new *thandar*. The Diwan expelling Jetmalji from Tharad took it under his care. In 1740 the criminal jurisdiction over Tharad was bestowed upon Kamal-ud-Din Khanji, the Nawab of Radhanpur.

Among the personal attendants and body-guards of Nawab Kamal-ud-Din Khan there was one Kanji, a Vaghela Rajput of Marwad. He was very brave and hardy, and claimed his descent from the chief of Sardhar.*

* Sardhar is now under Rajkot in Kathiawad. It was formerly the principal seat of government. For the account of Vaghelas *vide* 'Bhadarva'.

The Babi put him in charge of Tharad. Jhala Santalji, when he ascended the throne of Patdi in 1305, established a village and named it after him Santalpur. This he gave in *giras* (appanage) to Kunwar Surajmalji. Lunaji, the Vaghela Rana of Sardhar, however, marching upon Santalpur turned out Surajmalji and his partisans. In the scuffle Surajmalji lost his life. Jhala Santalji afterwards sought the assistance of the Mussalmans, and in 1325 he succeeded in turning out Lunaji Vaghela from Sardhar. The latter fled and took up his residence at Marwad; and Kanji claimed his descent from this last Lunaji Vaghela of Sardhar. His descendants are even now known as Sardhara Vaghelas.

Rana Kanji dying in 1819 was succeeded by his brother Rana Harbhamji. During his reign Tharad was infested by gangs of banditti who laid waste the greater portion of the territory. Harbhamji at last sought the protection of the English Government, and in 1820, he succeeded by their help in driving away these marauders. From that period the *Taluka* of Tharad came in contact with the Paramount Power.

Rana Harbhamji died in 1823, and was succeeded by Karan Sinhji. He dying in 1859 was succeeded by his grandson Khengar Sinhji, the present Thakore of Tharad. He has a son named Abhaya Sinhji.

Rana Khengar Sinhji is a Vaghela Rajput of the Sardhara branch. In criminal cases he is empowered to pass sentence of imprisonment with hard labour upto 2 years, and to inflict a fine upto Rs. 1,000. In civil matters his jurisdiction extends to hearing and disposing of suits to the amount of Rs. 10,000.

Subordinate *jagir* of Morwada.—This portion is situated at some distance to the south of Tharad. It was formerly in the hands of the Turk Mussalmans, until it was conquered from them by the Chavda Rajputs in 1479. The Vaghelas took possession of it from the Chavdas in 1508. It is now held by the Vaghela Rajputs. It is in charge of a Tehasildar.

Subordinate *jagir* of Bhoral.—The Thakore of this place holds a mere subordinate position under the Thakore of Tharad. The *jagir* consists of merely ten villages, and the *Jagirdar* is empowered in criminal cases to inflict sentence of imprisonment with hard labour up to one month, and a fine up to Rs. 50 only. In civil cases he is empowered to hear and decide suits to the extent of Rs. 250.

In the town of Tharad there are to be seen the Rana's Darbar,

a Vernacular school, and a Library. A *thandar* is stationed there to supervise the state of affairs on behalf of the Political Superintendent.

Residence.—Tharad, Palanpur Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

TIGARIA.

Area.—46 sq. miles. Population.—20,546.

Revenue.—8,492 rupees.

This principality is bounded on the north by Dhenkanal ; on the east by Athgarh State ; on the south by the Mahanadi river ; and on the west by the Baramba State.

This State was founded by a Rajput pilgrim, from the northern India. Sur Zung Sinh Mandhata subdued the aboriginal inhabitants of Orissa, and established his *Raj* there about 400 years ago. Raja Gopinath Sinh was the twenty-second in descent from him. He assumed the family title of Champati Sinh Mahipatra. His grandson Raja Harihar Khetria made the further addition of Birbar to the family title. He succeeded to the *gadi* in 1849 and died in 1886, when the present Chief Raja Banamali Khetria ascended the *gadi*. He pays a tribute of Rs. 882 to the Paramount Power.

Residence.—Tigaria, Orissa Tributary Mahals ; Bengal.

TIMBA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—2,035.

Revenue.—800 rupees.

Nathu Sinhji, Chandra Koli by caste, is the present Thakore. A tribute of Rs. 50-5-10 is paid by him to H. H. the Maharaja of Idar. He is enlisted in the seventh class among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha, so in criminal cases he is empowered to inflict punishment with hard labour for one month and fine upto Rs. 50, while in civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose of suits to the amount of Rs. 250.

Residence.—Timba, Mahi Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

TODA-TODI.

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—612.

Revenue.—3,500 rupees.

Jethi Bhai and Khoda Bhai, Gohel Rajputs by caste, are the present *Talukdars*. They pay a tribute of Rs. 147-8-0 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and Rs. 48 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The *Talukdars* have two independent tribute-payers. Neither civil nor criminal powers are granted to them. Toda is 8 miles to the south of Songarh.

Residence.—Toda, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

TONK.

The present Thakore of Tonk, Narjat Sinh, succeeded his father Balwant Sinh in 1869. He receives under two *sanads tankhas* of the amount of Rs. 4,569-8 from Sindhia and Holkar, and a sum of Rs. 4,570 from the Dewas chiefs under a letter of 1837 from the Assistant Resident of Indore.

Besides, he holds extensive lands and the village of Murmia in Unchaud *paragna* on a quit-rent of Rs. 201 from Sindhia and a small tract of *inam* land in Indore under Holkar.

Residence.—Tonk, Indore Agency; Central India.

TORGAL.

Area.—130 sq. miles. Population.—13,359.

Revenue.—43,826 rupees.

Sambhai Rao Sinda Senakhas Khel, Maratha by caste, is the present Chief. He pays a tribute of Rs. 4,250 to the British Government. This State is one of the Southern Maratha *Jagirdars*.

Residence.—Torgal, Southern Maratha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

UCHAD

Area.—4 sq. miles. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—10,088 rupees.

Daima Jita Miyan, Molesalam Girasia by caste, is the present Thakore. A tribute of Rs. 883 is paid by him to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda through the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha. No Civil and criminal powers are granted to him.

Residence.—Uchad, Rewa Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

UDAIPUR.

Area.—1,055 sq. miles. Population.—37,536.

Revenue.—7,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by Sarguja; on the east by Raipur District and the State of Jashpur; on the south by Raigarh; and on the west by the District of Bilaspur.

The family that ruled in the State was descended from the house which ruled at Sarguja. But in 1857, the then ruler openly and actively worked with the mutineers, and, on being found guilty of high treason, was consequently transported to the Andamans. The State, however, was not confiscated, but a brother of the Raja of Sarguja, Raja Bindeswari Prasad Sinh Rao Bahadur, whose loyalty to the Government was exhibited in a marked degree, was placed on the *gadi*. He was created a C. S. I. He died in 1876, when the present Raja Dharamjit Sinh Deo succeeded him to the *gadi*. He pays a tribute of Rs. 533-5-0 to the Paramount Power.

Residence—Udaipur, Chhota Nagpur Tributary Mahals ; Bengal.

UMETA.

Area.—36½ sq. miles. Population.—12,000.

Revenue.—42,467 rupees.

The present Thakore of Umeta is a Baraiya Koli, whose ancestor Jhanjharji was originally a Rajput of the Padihar sect. When Mahmud Begara, the heroic Sultan of Ahmedabad, conquered Champaner in 1484,

Jhanjharji and his comrades fled and sought shelter in the dense forests and the deep ravines on the banks of the river Mahi near the village of Umeta. **Jhanjharji** there married a Koli bride, and his example was followed by several of his companions, who came to be recognised as Baraiya Kolis. In course of time, **Jhanjharji** succeeded in slaying **Jet Singh**, **Thakore** of Bilpad, who was an inveterate foe of the chief of **Bhetashi**. The grateful prince rewarded this succour by a grant of eight villages. **Jhanjharji** then seized several other villages, and established an independent **Thakorate**. In 1694 several Koli chiefs marched against Umeta, which was only saved by the timely assistance of the neighbouring chiefs. In 1751, when the Peshwa and the Gaekwad effected a territorial partition between themselves, the five villages under Umeta fell to the lot of the Peshwa, while the seven villages under Bilpad were assigned to the Gaekwad. On the final overthrow of the Peshwa in 1817 the right of sovereignty over the villages under Umeta was transferred to the British Government. When the status of the *Talukdars* of the Mahi Kantha Agency formed the subject-matter of the treaties concluded between the British Government and H. H. the Gaekwad in 1812 and 1820, the villages under Bilpad were ordered to be placed in the Mahi Kantha Agency. The Baroda Government, however, resumed its sovereign rights over these villages, when the **Thakore** of Umeta sought the interference of the British Government. After a long and careful enquiry it was decided to transfer those villages from the Mahi Kantha to the Rewa Kantha Agency.

Raya Singhji, the present **Thakore**, inherited the estate on the death of his father **Hathi Singhji**. In respect of the criminal jurisdiction enjoyed by the **Thakore** over the villages under Bilpad, he is entitled to inflict sentence of rigorous imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months and fine upto Rs. 200, while in civil matters he is empowered to entertain suits of any amount whatsoever. The civil and criminal jurisdiction over Umeta and its subordinate villages is exercised by British officials. The late **Thakore Hathi Singhji** finding his estate reduced to the verge of bankruptcy, requested the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha to assume the management of the **Thakorate**. A *Japtidar* under the control of the Political Agent was appointed to administer the affairs of the estate, and the same arrangement continues even to the present day.

Residence.—Umeta, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

UMRI.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—1,453.

Revenue.—1,100 rupees.

Moti Sinhji, Chandra Koli by caste, is the present Thakore. He succeeded to the *gadi* after the death of his grandfather, the late Thakore Amar Sinhji. No tribute is paid by him to any higher authority. The Thakore is enlisted in the seventh class, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for one month and fine up to Rs. 50, while in civil cases he is competent to hear and dispose of suits to the amount of Rs. 250.

Residence.—Umri, Mahi Kantha Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

UNI.

The ancestral patrimony of Uni, Bharkia and Tamolia was enjoyed by the family under the junior chief of Dewas. But in 1841 Thakore Hindu Sinh came to a settlement, by which he agreed to hold the villages of Uni and Bharkia in perpetuity on payment of a quit-rent of Rs. 501 and 401, and the village of Tamolia on life-tenure on an annual rent of Rs. 451, but liable to enhancement. The Dewas Darbar was averse to granting permanent settlement, and consequently the arrangement was not put into operation till 1876, when pressure was brought to bear on the Dewas Darbar to abide by it in a slightly modified form. The village of Bharkia was to be held on life-tenure also.

Thakore Hindu Sinh was succeeded by his son Gopal Sinh, on whose death, in 1883, the villages of Bharkia and Tamolia were resumed by the Dewas Darbar. Negotiations are a-foot for leasing them to Daulat Sinh, the son of the deceased Thakore,

Residence.—Uni, Indore Agency ; Central India.

UNTRI.

Area.—6 sq. miles. Population.—431.

Revenue.—1,955 rupees.

Rupji and Manubhai, Jhala Rajputs by caste, are the present *Talukdars*. They pay a tribute of Rs. 493 to the British Government and Rs. 46

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to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. They have two independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are vested in them. Untri lies $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles south-east of the Limbdi Railway Station.

Residence.—Untri, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

UPARWARA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—1,200.

Revenue.—31,000 rupees.

The Thakores of Uparwara are Solanki Rajputs. The present Thakore Luchhman Sinh is the grandson of Zalim Sinh, with whom the settlement was made. By virtue of it, the three villages of Uparwara, Palukhera and Chandankheri are secured to them on condition of a payment of Rs. 3,603 as rent to the Jaora State. *Dami* and *sayar* dues are also secured to them thereby.

Residence.—Uparwara, Western Malwa Agency; Central India.

VANMALA.

Area.— $10\frac{1}{2}$ sq. miles. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—4,000 rupees.

Kalubawa, Molesalam Girasia by caste, is the present Thakore. A tribute of Rs. 133 is paid by him to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda. Neither civil nor criminal powers are granted to him.

Residence.—Vanmala, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

VEJANONESS.

Sura, Kathi of the Khasia clan, is the present *Talukdar*. A tribute of Rs. 31 is paid by him to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda. He has one independent tribute-payer. Neither civil nor criminal powers are enjoyed by him. Vejanoness is two miles to the south of Chok.

Residence.—Vejanoness, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

VEKRIA.

Area.—8 sq. miles. Population.—744.

Revenue.—5,000 rupees.

Mansur, Kathi of the Vala clan, is the present *Talukdar*. He pays Rs. 54-12-0 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda, as a tribute. The *Talukdar* has one independent tribute-payer. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by him. Vekria is 12 miles distant from the Maneckwada Civil Station.

Residence.—Vekria, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

VICHHAVAD.

Area.—4 sq. miles. Population.—680.

Revenue.—4,500 rupees.

Hari Prasad and Jaswant Rai, Nagar Brahmans by caste, are the present *Talukdars*. No tribute is paid by them to any higher authority. They have two independent tribute-payers. The *Talukdars* have been enlisted in the sixth class, so in criminal cases they have the power of inflicting rigorous imprisonment with hard labour for three months and fine upto Rs. 200, while in civil matters they are competent to hear and dispose of suits to the amount of Rs. 500. Vichhavad is 5 miles to the west of the Maneckwada Civil Station.

Residence.—Vichhavad, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

VINCHUR.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—30,000.

Revenue.—73,000 rupees.

This State was founded by Vithal Rao Shiv Deo. He distinguished himself at the capture of Ahmedabad by the Raja of Satara, and for these valuable services he was granted the estate of Vinchur. Raghunath Rao, the present Chief, rendered meritorious services to the British Government during the Mutiny of 1857, and the title of Companion of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India was conferred on him. This State is situated in the Nasik district of the Bombay Presidency.

Residence.—Vinchur, Nasik District; Bombay Presidency.

VIRAMPURA.

Area.— $\frac{1}{2}$ sq. mile. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—700 rupees.

Nathu Khan, Molesalam Girasia of the Daima sect, is the present Thakore. He pays Rs. 103 to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda through the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha, as a tribute. Neither civil nor criminal powers are enjoyed by him.

Residence.—Virampura, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

VIRPUR.

Area.—29 sq. miles. Population.—6,300.

Revenue.—39,000 rupees.

Jam Raol, the founder of the Jadeja rule at Nawanagar, was succeeded in 1562 by his son Vibhaji, who died in 1569, after a short rule of seven years. Of the four sons left behind him, the third Bhanji represents the present Thakore of Virpur. The estate received in appanage by Bhanji was given up by Bharoji, who accepted service under the Mahomedan Governor of Kharedi. Originally the land-lords of Kharedi were Kathis, who were dispelled by the Mahomedans. A small portion, however, fell to the lot of Bharoji. Mokoji, seventh in descent from Bharoji, otherwise called Bawoji, overpowered the Mahomedan Governor in 1766, and took Kharedi under his sole independent charge. He succeeded in acquiring Virpur and two other villages from the Kathis, thus making his principality consist of twelve villages. He held his court at Virpur. Suraji, the present Thakore, is the fifth in descent from Mokoji. This is a fourth class State in the Kathiawad Agency, so its ruler is empowered to inflict punishment with hard labour for three years and fine up to Rs. 5,000. In civil cases he is competent to hear and decide suits to the amount of Rs. 10,000. Virpur is 8 miles to the north-east of the Jetpur Railway Station.

Residence.—Virpur, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

VIRWA.

Area.—76 sq. miles. Population.—176.

Revenue.—1,000 rupees.

Bhawaji, Jadeja Rajput by caste, is the present *Talukdar*. A tri-

bute of Rs. 149 is paid by him to the British Government and of Rs. 44 to H. H. The Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. He has one independent tribute-payer. Neither civil nor criminal powers are granted to him. Virwa is 8 miles distant from Lodhika.

Residence.—Virwa, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

VISHALGARH.

Area.—121 sq. miles. Population.—31,247.

Revenue.—1,30,692 rupees.

Parshuram Trimbak, who was in charge of the fort of Vishalgarh, was in 1697 honoured with the title of *Pratinidhi* by Rajaram I., son of Shiwaji the Great. He and his son supporting different parties in the quarrels between the Satara and Kolhapur branches of Shiwaji's family, the former was made *Pratinidhi* of Satara and the latter *Pratinidhi* of Kolhapur. One of his successors, Bhagwant Rao Abaji, was the first Chief of Vishalgarh, who came in contact with the British Government. He died in 1819, and the next three rulers succeeded to the *gadi* by adoption. The last of them died in 1871, leaving a child, Abaji Rao Krishna Panth Pratinidhi, during whose minority the estate was placed in the charge of the Political Agent of Kolhapur. He has been educated at the Rajaram College at Kolhapur. The Chief pays a yearly tribute of Rs. 5,975 to the Kolhapur State.

Residence.—Malkapur, Kolhapur Agency; Bombay Presidency.

VITHALGARH.

Area.—23 sq. miles. Population.—1,000.

Revenue.—15,000 rupees.

Vithalgarh formerly belonged to Lakhtar, but H. H. the Gaekwad's famous Diwan Babaji Apaji, who accompanied Colonel Walker to Kathiawad in order to fix and settle the tribute payable by the several chiefs, obtained a grant of it with four other villages in reward for his services in extricating the Lakhtar *Taluka* from the encumbrance of debts. The present *Talukdar*, Bhaskar Rao, is a descendant of this Babaji Apaji. He

is enlisted in the fifth class of the chiefs of Kathiawad, but as he stays in Baroda, a *thandar* is stationed at Vithalgarh on behalf of the Political Agent of Kathiawad to conduct the powers. The *Talukdar* pays no tribute to any higher authority.

Residence.—Vithalgarh, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

WADAL .

Area.—2 sq. miles. Population.—175.

Revenue.—2,550 rupees.

Luna and Jethsur, Ahirs of the Kamalia clan, are the present *Talukdars*. They pay Rs. 154 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda, as a tribute. The *Talukdars* have two independent tribute-payers. Neither civil nor criminal powers are granted to them. Wadal is 7 miles to the south of Pali-tana.

Residence.—Wadal, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

WADALI.

Area.—7 sq. miles. Population.—590.

Revenue.—2,000 rupees.

Bhupat Sinh, Jadeja Rajput by caste, is the principal share-holder. He pays a tribute of Rs. 246 to the British Government and Rs. 78 to the Junagarh State as *Zortulbi Hakka*. The *Talukdar* has one independent tribute-payer. He is enrolled in the seventh class among the chiefs of Kathiawad, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for 15 days and fine upto Rs. 25, while in civil cases he has no powers. Wadali is 10 miles distant from the Rajkot Railway Station.

Residence.—Wadali, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

WADOD.

Area.—14 sq. miles. Population.—1,590.

Revenue.—21,000 rupees.

This *Taluka* was received in 1765 in appanage by Lakhoji, the

second son of Sabal Sinh, the then Thakore of Wadhwan. Fattah Sinh, his descendant, Jhala Rajput by caste, is the present *Talukdar*. He pays a tribute of Rs. 1,252 to the British Government and Rs. 278 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The *Talukdar* has one independent tribute-payer. He is enlisted in the sixth class among the chiefs of Kathiawad, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for three months and fine upto Rs. 200, while in civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose of suits to the amount of Rs. 500. Wadod is 10 miles distant from the Khar Railway Station. •

Residence.—Wadod, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

WADOD.

Area.—2 sq. miles. Population.—877.

Revenue.—2,200 rupees.

Adabhai and Mohabat Sinh, Gohel Rajputs by caste, are the present *Talukdars*. A tribute of Rs. 940 is paid by him to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and of Rs. 162 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The *Talukdars* have two independent tribute-payers. Neither civil nor criminal powers are enjoyed by them. Wadod is 6 miles distant from the Ujalvav Railway Station.

Residence.—Wadod, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

WAGWARI.

Area.—3 sq. miles. Population.—89.

Revenue.—2,200 rupees.

Kana, Kathi of the Vala clan, is the present *Talukdar*. He pays a tribute of Rs. 135 to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda and Rs. 19 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The *Talukdar* has one independent tribute-payer. No civil and criminal powers are granted to him. Wagwari is 3 miles distant from Lakhapadar.

Residence.—Wagwari, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

WAJIRIA.

Area.—10 sq. miles. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—37,900 rupees.

Immediately after the downfall of the kingdom of Champaner, the founders of this chiefdom settled themselves here. They were by birth Rajputs of the Rathod clan, but owing to the bigotted persecutions of the intolerant Pad Shahs of Gujarat they were compelled to embrace the faith of Islam. From that date they began to be known as Molesalam Mahomedans. One Thakore of this *Taluka*, Bapu Saheb, succumbed to an early death in 1866 on account of his dissolute habits. Bapu Saheb left no son behind him, but it was given out after his death that Gulab, the daughter of Alam of Alwa, was enceinte, and, in course of time, a suppositious child was put forward. But the secret leaked out, and Gulab Khan, a near relative of the deceased, pressed his claims before the Political Agent. In the final enquiry, the whole truth about the child came to light, and Government resolved to regard Kalu Bawa, the son of Gulab Khan, as the rightful heir. It was also resolved, owing to the imbecility of Kalu Bawa, to hand over the *Taluka* to his son on his coming to age. Meanwhile it was placed under British management. A son was born to the imbecile Kalu Bawa, named Keshar Khan, who has succeeded to the *gadi* after the death of his father.

Keshar Khan being a minor at the time of his father's death, the management of the estate remained, as before, under the supervision of the Political Agent, Rewa Kantha. He was sent to receive education at the Rajkumar College, Rajkot, which he left after finishing his studies. When he attained the age of majority, the Political Agent, Rewa Kantha, personally proceeded to Wajiria, held a grand Darbar and on 9th October 1896 entrusted him with the sole management of the estate. He has appointed as his *Karbhari* one Ganpatram Jebhai Thakar, late *Karbhari* of the Bhadarva State. This *Karbhari* is a deserving hand. He has brought about several improvements in the affairs of the Bhadarva State, which he left in a thriving condition. Besides this, much credit is due to him for his exertions in moving the Political Agent to rule that, in addition to the powers of a First Class Magistrate enjoyed by the Thakore, his *Karbhari* and *Munsiff* might exercise the powers of a Second Class and a Third Class Magistrate respectively. If Mr. Ganpatram continues as *Karbhari*, he will, it is hoped, make similar improvements in Wajiria also.

Residence.—Wajiria, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

THE HIND RAJASTHAN.

WAKTAPUR.

Area.—31½ sq. miles. Population.—2,551.

Revenue.—5,818 rupees.

Ude Sinhji, Makwana Koli by caste, is the present Thakore. A tribute of Rs. 1,118-4-7 is paid by him to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda. The Thakore is enrolled in the sixth class among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha, so in criminal cases he is entitled to inflict rigorous imprisonment for three months and a fine of Rs. 100, while in civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose of suits to the amount of Rs. 500.

Residence.—Waktapur, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

WAKTAPUR.

Area.—1 sq. mile. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—788 rupees.

Rawal Daji Bhai, Ranchhod, and Saheb Sinh, Solanki Rajputs by caste, are the present share-holders. They pay Rs. 51 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda, as a tribute. Neither civil nor criminal powers are enjoyed by them.

Residence.—Waktapur, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

WALA.

Area.—109 sq. miles. Population.—17,842.

Revenue.—1,50,000 rupees.

The present rulers of Wala are Rajputs of the Gohel race, and are styled 'Thakores'. It stands in the vicinity of the ancient city of Valabhipur. Siladitya VI. of the Surya dynasty, was attacked in 524 by the Yavans, who slew him, and overthrew the ancient monarchy of Valabhipur. One of his descendants, Bappa Rawal, acquired the kingdom of Udaipur in Mewad. After the lapse of two centuries, Rajputs of the Wala race settled themselves at that place. The account which the bards give of their origin is that Pritha *alias* Kunta, the wife of Pandu, was impregnated by the Sun and Karan was born of her. Vrittaket, the son of Karan, turned back from the Mahabharat war in order to perpetuate his lineage.

Though the object was served, it was at the expense of being permanently stigmatized by the appellation of Wala by which they came to be known, that term signifying pusillanimous, ungallant and un-Rajput-like conduct. The following is the epigram frequently recited by the bards.

‘ Vrishaket was of lofty lineage,
 ‘ Whence the Wala tribe,
 ‘ The Kaurav and Pandu tribes have been extinguished,
 ‘ But you have preserved undying fame.*

When the Wala kingdom was thus re-established, so much as a fourth part of Saurâstra was included within it. Colonel Tod is of opinion that Wala was a branch of the line of Sikaditya of the Surya dynasty of Valabhipur, and that a member of the same family returned from Mewad and recovered the ancient monarchy. The reign of Ebhal II was marked by a dispute between the Kayasthas and their priests—the Walam Brahmins—on account of their exorbitant demands. They demanded a heavy sum on the occasion of the marriage of a Kayasth girl. This led the Kayasthas to form a combination and resolve never to marry their daughters unless and until the Brahmins lessened their demands. The consequence of this resolution was that the girls reached the age of twenty and thirty without being married. When the priests resorted to all means of frightening the poor Kayasthas into submission, the latter went to Ebhal, and complained in the bitterest terms of the conduct of the Brahmins. Deeply moved by the grievances of the priest-ridden caste, and conscious that there was no higher merit in this world than the giving away in marriage of young girls, he took them over to Talaja, and had the marriage ceremonies performed by other Brahmins, and personally gave them away in marriage. The *Bhats* compute their number at 500. This revolt of the laity is celebrated in the following distich.

The brave Ebhal the second,
 Relieved the brides from grief,
 For he, on the hills of Talaja,
 A score of virgins in marriage, gave free.‡

* Vrishakete vansa njalo, jyanthi Wala jat;
 Kaurave kala khoyu, ala rakhi akhyat.

The Wala race derives its origin from the illustrious line of Vrishaket; the Kauravs lost their fair name, but preserved from extinction their lineage.

‡ Anakal bije Ebhale savad sankat sod;
 Diya Talaja dungare, Kanyadan karod.

Ebhal the second gave ten millions of Kanyadanas and removed the difficulties by a heroic remedy.

When after the performance of the marriage ceremonies, the Kayasthas returned to Wala, the priests sprinkled their blood on the bodies of the Kayasthas. The matter was reported to Ebhal, who summoned all of them to his presence, and strictly enjoined them not to behave so in future. Disobeying the orders of their sovereign, they began to reproach him for having supported the Kayasthas against them. At this Ebhal was deeply incensed, but seeing they were Brahmans, he let them alone. A band of Kolis was hired by the Kayasthas, who fell upon the Brahmans, killing most of them on the spot. Those who survived escaped to different quarters, and swore never to perform any ceremony for the Kayasthas. The Walam Brahmans escaped to Dhandhuka, where they were cordially received by the ruling chief Dhanmer, who bestowed on them a large portion of his property in charity.

To avenge the persecution of these Brahmans by Ebhal Wala, Dhanmer of Dhandhuka and Ranoji, the son of Sejakji Gohel, jointly headed an expedition against Wala. When the enemy approached the precincts of Wala, Ebhal was engaged in adoring the Sun, his tutelary deity. They succeeded in occupying the city by a sudden attack in which Ebhal was slain. As Ranoji was the son-in-law of Dhanmer, the latter withdrew his army, leaving the former in exclusive possession of the kingdom (1260).

In 1297-98 Wala was attacked, and its Gohel rulers dethroned by the Mahomedans. Within a few years of its passing into Mahomedan hands, the whole of Gujarat passed into the hands of the Emperor of Delhi, and viceroys were appointed to carry on the government. A military post was then stationed at Wala, which continued to be governed by the Mahomedans till the death of the Emperor Aurangzeb in 1707, when it was acquired by Bhav Sinhji, the founder of Bhavnagar.

Bhav Sinhji ruled at Bhavnagar till 1764, when Akherajji, the eldest of the five princes, was seated on the *gadi*. During his life-time Bhav Sinhji had assigned *jagirs* to the cadets of the family. In consequence of this arrangement, Visoji acquired Wala and two other villages. It is said that Akherajji and Visoji were twin brothers, and at the time of Akherajji's accession to the Bhavnagar *gadi*, Visoji put forward his claim, which estranged Akherajji from his brother Visoji. Thus Visoji became the

founder of the present dynasty ruling at Wala. He had three sons, Nathubhai, Kayabhai and Jethibhai and a daughter Moghibai. She was betrothed to the Nawab of Junagarh, but when she was taken there to be married, she heard on the way the sad news of the death of the Nawab with whom she was affianced. She was then persuaded to return to Wala, but she declared her resolution to go to Junagarh, urging that betrothal was tantamount to marriage. When she reached Junagarh, she at once proceeded to the grave of the deceased Nawab, took four turns round it, thereby solemnizing her marriage, and staying there for some time she returned to Wala, where the village of Bhalod was granted to her for maintenance.

After the assignment of Wala and other villages, Visoji gained several others by his own prowess, and founded an independent chiefdom. He died in 1774, and was succeeded by his eldest son Nathubhai. He granted the estates of Pati, Pipli and Rajasthali to Kayabhai and to Jethibhai, the village of Ratanpur, which was subsequently exchanged for Waori. After his accession he extended his territory and consolidated his new acquisitions. The feelings of animosity that had commenced during his father's time towards the Chief of Bhavnagar, continued to be cherished by him also.

Upon the death of Nathubhai in 1728, his son Maghabhai ascended the throne. He like his father preserved peace and order in the State, and conquering the neighbouring villages of the Gohari Gohels and Saiyads, he added them to his dominions. When Maghabhai was ruling at Wala Colonel Walker visited Kathiawad to settle the Maratha claims. He died in 1814 leaving three sons.

Harbhamji the eldest came to the throne, the younger brothers Pathabhai and Adabhai getting in assignment Dared, Kanpur and several other villages. During his reign the feud between the Lathia Girasias of Waori and the Govalia Kathis caused him much anxiety, but finally he sided with the Kathis, and incurred the enmity of their opponents. On one occasion the two parties were engaged in a fierce contest in which several Girasias of Pachhegam were killed. On this account no Girasia of Pachhegam would, to this day, sip the water of the town of Wala.

Harbhamji had two sons, but as the elder Kalyan Sinhji had expired a few days before his death in 1838, the second son Daulat Sinhji succeeded him to the *gadi*. After a short reign of two years, he died in

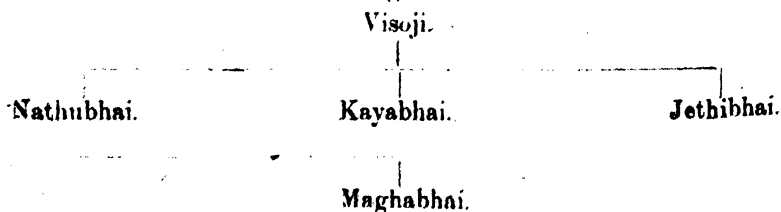
1840 in the fullness of his youth. When he was on his death-bed, the succession was hotly contested by Pathabhai, his uncle, to whom Dared was assigned, and Hamirji, the son of Harbhamji by his Khavas mistress. The question was, however, settled in favour of the uncle. He, however, took very little interest in the welfare of the estate, and the affairs were managed by his son Prithirajji, he himself continuing to reside, for the most part, at the village of Dared.

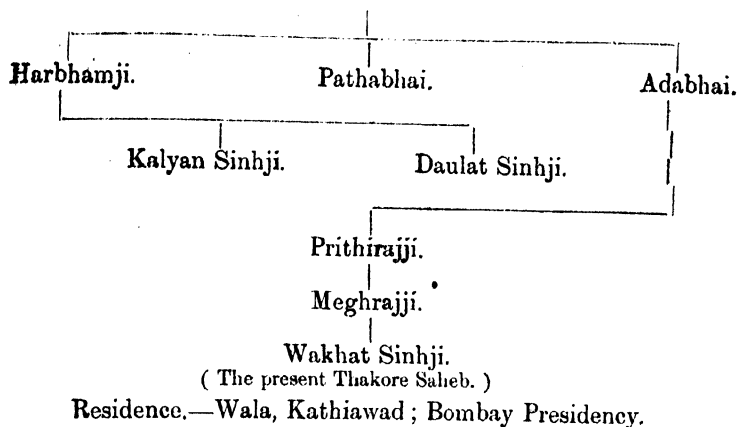
Pathabhai died in 1853, and his son Prithirajji followed him in 1860 after a rule of seven years. Prince Meghrajji who was placed on the throne was then a minor, and an officer appointed by the Political Agent administered the State. When he reached his majority, the State was handed over to him. Immediately after the change of hands the State began to sink fast under the weight of heavy debts. The British Government was compelled, once more, to appoint an administrator in 1868.

Meghrajji died suddenly of cholera on the 20th August 1875, and his son Wakhat Sinhji, the present Thakore, succeeded him to the *gudi*. At the time of his accession he was only eleven years of age. The State was administered by Mr. Bajibhai under the immediate supervision of the Assistant Political Agent, Gohelwad Prant. Under the economical British administration, the whole of the liabilities were discharged. Prince Wakhat Sinhji was sent to the Rajkumar College at Rajkot to prosecute his studies. When he attained majority, the ceremony of installation was performed with great éclat by Mr. Warden, the Assistant Political Agent, on behalf of the Political Agent under Government orders on the 22nd August 1884.

Wala is a third class State in Kathiawad, and the powers of the Thakore Saheb extend to the infliction of seven years' rigorous imprisonment and imposition of a fine up to Rs. 10,000, and to the disposal of civil suits of the value of Rs. 20,000.

Genealogical tree.





WALASNA.

Area.—25 sq. miles. Population.—4,577.

Revenue.—6,441 rupees.

Naran Das, who was fifteenth in descent from Rao Soningji of Idar, had three sons Viram Deo, Gopal Das and Kalyan Mal, the eldest of whom succeeded him to the *gadi*, but he dying childless, Gopal Das was entitled to the succession. Every preparation was made for the ceremonial; and his younger brother Kalyan Mal, who was then at his maternal home at Udaipur, was invited to take part in the festivities. When the hour fixed for investiture approached, Gopal Das retired to his dressing room, and tried different garments without deciding which to wear on that auspicious occasion. While he was thus wavering in his choice of apparel, the appointed hour was on the point of being missed. The sagacious courtiers, however, readily perceived the weakness of their sovereign-elect, and resolved that he was incapable of governing them. At that moment Kalyan Mal came up from Udaipur, and was with unanimous acclamation placed on the throne of Idar.

Gopal Das, whose hesitating nature had lost him the *gadi*, repaired to Delhi and accepted service under Emperor Jehangir. Supported by Imperial troops he set out against Idar. On his way he stopped at Mandwa.

where the Miyans deserted the place and fled to the neighbouring woods and ravines; Gopal Das pursuing them thither found himself shut up in the dreary jungles, where he with his followers died in extreme misery.

Gopal Das had, at the time of his departure for Delhi, placed his family under the charge of a cowherd by name Wala. At the time of his death near Mandwa, his two sons, Hari Sinhji and Ajab Sinhji, were staying with their guardian, giving the place where they resided the name of Walasna after the cowherd. They set up a new *Taluka* incorporating with it some neighbouring villages.

Hari Sinhji, the present Chief, succeeded to the *gadi*, as a minor, after the death of his father Man Sinhji. He is enrolled in the fifth class among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for six months and a fine of Rs. 250, while in civil cases he has the power to try and dispose of suits to the amount of Rs. 1,000.

Residence.—Walasna, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

WANALA.

Area.—3 sq. miles. Population.—625.

Revenue.—2,673 rupees.

Prabhat Sinh and Abhaya Sinh, Jhala Rajputs by caste, are the present *Talukdars*. A tribute of Rs. 396 is paid by them to the British Government. They have two independent tribute-payers. Neither civil nor criminal powers are granted to them. Wanala is 12 miles distant from the Limbdi Railway Station.

Residence.—Wanala, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

WANGADRA.

Area.—62 sq. miles. Population.—441.

Revenue.—2,000 rupees.

Mavji, Gohel Rajput by caste, is the present *Talukdar*. A tribute of Rs. 79 is paid by him to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and of Rs. 25 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The *Talukdar* has

two independent tribute-payers. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by him. Wangadra is 2 miles to the north of the Dhola Railway Station.

Residence.—Wangadra, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

WANKIA.

Area.—6 sq. miles. Population.—1,722.

Revenue.—14,000 rupees.

Rukhad, Kathi of the Khachar clan, is the present *Talukdar*. The tribute to be paid by him is included under that payable by the Khambhala State. The *Talukdar* is enlisted in the sixth class among the chiefs of Kathiawad, so he is empowered to inflict punishment for three months and a fine of Rs. 200 in criminal cases, while in civil matters he is competent to hear and dispose of suits to the extent of Rs. 500.

Residence.—Wankia, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

WANNA.

Area.—24 sq. miles. Population.—3,494.

Revenue.—22,318 rupees.

Wakhat Sinh, Bhojraj, Junaji, Jaswant Sinh, Madar Sinh and Bharubha, Jhala Rajputs by caste, are the present *Talukdars*. A tribute of Rs. 3,715 is paid by them to the British Government and of Rs. 278 to the Junagarh State as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The *Talukdars* have six independent tribute-payers. Neither civil nor criminal powers are granted to them. Wanna is 5 miles to the west of the Lakhtar Railway Station.

Residence.—Wanna, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

WANOD.

Area.—57 sq. miles. Population.—6,770.

Revenue.—15,000 rupees.

Wanod is said to have been founded by Vanraj Chavada, and the shrine of his tutelary goddess *Wanodmata* stands to this day near this

village. The ancestors of the present *Talukdars* were Rajputs of the Rathod clan, and were descended from Rao Chanda of Mandawar. Rathods Bhimji and Ajoji of the same family proceeded to Ahmedabad in the reign of Ahmud Shah I., and giving their daughters in marriage to the Sultan, themselves embraced the Islam faith. They were rewarded with the grant of the Wanod *Taluka* with the dignity of "Malek". The present Thakore of Wanod is Malek Hayat Khanji. He is a fifth class *Talukdar* in Kathiawad, so in criminal cases his powers extend to the infliction of two years' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 2,000, while in civil cases he is empowered to hear and decide suits to the amount of Rs. 5,000.

Residence.—Wanod, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

WAO.

Area.—380 sq. miles. Population.—27,735.

Revenue.—57,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by Sachor in Malwa, on the east and south by the Tharad and Suigam States, and on the west by the salt desert of the Run.

The Chief of this *Taluka* claims his descent from Prathuraj Chauhan, the last of the Rajput kings of Delhi, who was taken prisoner while fighting with Shahab-ud-Din Ghori in 1193, and who subsequently expired at Gazni. Dedha Rao, one of the descendants of Prathuraj, on being expelled from Nandol, the seat of his government, took refuge with his maternal uncle, the Parmar Rajput chief of Tharad. He eventually succeeded in inheriting his chiefdom. During the reign of one of his descendants, Rano Punjaji, Tharad was frequently invaded by the Mussulmans from Multan, when, at last, in the 13th century of the Christian era it fell into their hands. Rana Punjaji was killed, while his wife, a Rajput woman of the Sodha clan, went to her paternal home at Parkar, taking with her her infant son Vajaji. The boy attaining puberty, she brought him in 1244 in the vicinage of Tharad. He founded Wao to the west of Tharad, and making several inroads upon the successors of the Multan Moslem conquerors, seized several villages, and founded an independent *Taluka*. The new *Taluka* was styled Tharad minor (Wao) and Vajaji began to rule there. The Present Rana Chandan Sinhji is more than

nineteen degrees removed from Vajaji. He is a Rajput of the Chauhan tribe. He ascended the *gadi* in the month of June 1884 after the demise of his father Umed Singhji. In criminal matters he is empowered to pass sentence of rigorous imprisonment extending to 6 months, and a fine up to Rs. 200. In civil cases he is entitled to hear and decide suits to the value of Rs. 500. A *thandar* is located there, for general supervision, under the direct control of the Political Superintendent of Palanpur.

Residence.—Wao, Palanpur Agency ; Bombay Presidency.

WAORI-DHARWALA.

Area.—4 sq. miles. Population.—2,257.

Revenue.—10,050 rupees.

Jiaji, Bapubha, Becharji, and Devi Sinh, Gohel Rajputs by caste, are the present *Talukdars*. A tribute of Rs. 1,296 is paid by them to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and of Rs. 234 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The *Talukdars* have five independent tribute-payers. Neither civil nor criminal powers are granted to them. Waori-Dharwala is 5 miles distant from the Dhola Railway Station.

Residence.—Waori-Dharwala, Kathiawad; Bombay Presidency.

WAORI—WACHHANI.

Area.—71 sq. miles. Population.—275.

Revenue.—3,000 rupees.

Rasaji, Gohel Rajput by caste, is the present *Talukdar*. He pays a tribute of Rs. 298 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda and Rs. 56 to H. H. the Nawab of Junagarh as *Zortalbi Hakka*. The *Talukdar* has one independent tribute-payer. Neither civil nor criminal powers are granted to him. Waori-Wachhani is 9 miles distant from Songarh.

Residence.—Waori-Wachhani, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

WARAGAM.

Area.—35 sq. miles. Population.—8,929.

Revenue.—8,000 rupees.

Raj Sinhji, Rehwar Rajput by caste, is the present Thakore. He pays no tribute to any higher authority. The Thakore is enrolled in the fifth class among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict punishment for six months with hard labour and a fine of Rs. 250, while in civil cases he is competent to hear and dispose of suits to the amount of Rs. 1,000.

Residence.—Waragam, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

WARAHI.

Area.—330 sq. miles. Population.—21,376.

Revenue.—67,000 rupees.

This State is bounded on the north by Chadchat State; on the south by the salt desert of the Run; on the east by the Radhanpur State; and on the west by Chorar.

The *Taluka* of Warahi is held by the Mussulman chiefs of the Jat tribe. Their ancestors were the inhabitants of Baluchistan and Makran. In 711 they came over to Sindh in the army of the first Mahomedan invader Kasam, and took up their abode at the village of Wanga. The king of Sindh saw and was charmed with the divine beauty of the fair and lovely Sumaribai, the daughter of one of these Jat Sardars, and yearned ardently to admit her into his seraglio. To avoid any friction with the king, the father of Sumaribai, with 700 of his Jat followers, left Sindh and fled towards Kutch. The Rao of that province giving them a cold shoulder they proceeded to Kathiawad and obtained the support of the Parmars of Muli in Jhalawad. Lagdhirji and Haloji were then the principal Parmar chiefs residing at Muli.

When Mahmud Begada, the illustrious king of Gujarat, invaded and conquered the territory of Patai Raol of Champaner in 1484, these Jats accompanied the Mussulmans' host, and in the several encounters with the enemy evinced singular bravery and hardihood. The king as a mark of appreciation granted them the *Taluka* of Bajana in Jhalawad. With the

permission of the Pad Shah they invaded the district of Mandal and reduced it to submission. They once incurred the displeasure of the Mughal Viceroy of Ahmedabad, who dispossessing them of their *Taluka* distributed it among the Jat *Bhayads*. Malek Hedar Khan received Bajana, Malek Lakha got Sitapur and Vanod, while Valivda fell to the lot of Malek Esa.

Warahi was then in the hands of the Ravanias, but Malek Lakha claimed it as his own. Once a dispute arose between the Ravana chief Godad and Malek Lakha for the possession of this *Taluka*. Malek Esaji of Valivda taking advantage of this dispute, marched upon Warahi, and driving away both the rival claimants took it under his charge. These Jats, before the advent of the British rule, were a scourge to the neighbouring ryots, whom they often plundered and mercilessly massacred. They at times even entered the very citadel of Ahmedabad. Sher Khan Babi, the Nawab of Radhanpur, with the permission of the Peshwa, brought the Jat chief Umar Khan a prisoner to Radhanpur, and kept him under his eyes in 1812. Three years later on (1815) he made his escape from the prison, but seeing order and peace reigning throughout the land, under the auspices of the British rule, he left off his hereditary profession of plundering, highway robbery and following other nefarious practices. Umar Khan was succeeded by his son Shahadat Khan. He also died in 1847. He left behind him three widows, one of whom gave birth to a son, eight months after the death of her husband, and gave him the name of Umar Khan. One of the cousins of Shahadat Khan raised a question as to the legitimacy of the posthumous boy. The enquiry lasted for several days, and it was at last decided by the British authority that the child was the legitimate son of Shahadat Khan, and that the allegations of the cousin were not made out. Umar Khan was duly placed in possession of his patrimony. The management of the *Taluka* was, however, kept by the British Government in their own hands during the minority of Umar Khan. But on his attaining the age of majority the sole management was entrusted to him.

The present Chief Zoravar Khanji inherited the *Taluka* on his father's death which took place on 14th September 1881. He is still a minor, and his portion of the State is under British management. There is another share-holder in this *Taluka*, whose name is Gaju Khanji. In criminal cases the principal share-holder is empowered to inflict sentence of imprisonment with hard labour up to one month and a fine up

to Rs. 50, while in civil matters he is entitled to entertain and decide suits to the value of Rs. 250.

Residence.—Warahi, Kathiawad ; Bombay Presidency.

WARNOLI MOTI.

Area.— $\frac{1}{2}$ sq. mile. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—518 rupees.

Pathi Bhai, Rathod Rajput by caste, is the present Thakore. He pays Rs. 101 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda, as a tribute, through the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha. The Thakore has no civil and criminal powers.

Residence.—Warnoli Moti, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

WARNOLI NANI.

Area.— $\frac{1}{2}$ sq. mile. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—367 rupees.

Bhaiji and Kahabhai, Rathod Rajputs by caste, are the present Thakores. A tribute of Rs. 25 is paid by them to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda. No civil and criminal powers are enjoyed by the Thakores.

Residence.—Warnoli Nani, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

WARNOLMAL.

Area.—2 sq. miles. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—717 rupees.

Jaya Sinh, Ade Sinh and Bechar Sinh, Baraiya by caste, are the present Thakores. A tribute of Rs. 85 is paid by them to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda. Neither civil nor criminal powers are granted to them.

Residence.—Warnolmal, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

WARSORA.

Area.—15 sq. miles. Population.—4,122.

Revenue.—14,788 rupees.

In our account of Mansa we have mentioned that Jaya Sinh of Ambasan was the father of three sons, Ihardas, Surajmalji and Samat Sinhji, between whom the estate was partitioned, Ambod being assigned to Ihardas, Warsora to Surajmalji, and Ambasan to Samat Sinhji, the share of each consisting of 84 villages. Thus Surajmalji became the founder of this *Taluka*.

Kishor Sinhji, the present ruler, is a Chavada Rajput. The Thakore is placed in the fourth class, so in criminal matters he is empowered to inflict punishment for one year with hard labour and a fine of Rs. 500, while in civil cases he hears and decides suits to the amount of Rs. 500.

Residence.—Warsora, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

WASAN-SEVDA.

Area.—3½ sq. miles. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—5,492 rupees.

Balu Bawa, Rathod Molesalam Girasia by caste, is the present Thakore. A tribute of Rs. 1,151 is paid by him to H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda. No civil and criminal powers are granted to him.

Residence.—Wasan-Sevda, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

WASAN-VIRPUR.

Area.—7½ sq. miles. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—16,067 rupees.

The Thakores of this *Taluka* are Molesalam Girasias of the Daima sect, and represent the junior branch of the family holding the estate of Uchad. Originally they owned but a few acres of land, but in 1825 Baji Daima, the father of the present Chief Jita Bawa, resorting to outlawry extended the limits of this *Taluka* by plundering villages belonging to the chiefs of Uchad, Agar and Rajpipla. Baji Daima was a hardy and a daring adventurer, who putting forward his right to the *gadi*, harried the people of Rajpipla. He was supported by two other highway men, Nasir Khan and Umed Khan, and several other mounted *Dhankas*. In December 1823 preparations to capture them were vigorously pushed on by Mr.

Willoughby; but when it was discovered that it was a hopeless task, he arranged to cut off their supplies. The services of a Bhil leader were engaged to arrest the culprits, and a prize was proclaimed for capturing them alive. A word was also sent through a bard by Mr. Willoughby that he would make provision for their future maintenance if they surrendered. In September 1824, Nasir Khan, Umed Khan and at last Baji Daima threw down their arms in token of submission. They agreed to behave peacefully, to comply with the decision of the Government as to their alleged rights, and not to give shelter to any of the outlaws. Baji Daima further agreed to reside for five years in the Camp at Baroda at his own expense. The present Thakore Jitabava is empowered to inflict one month's rigorous imprisonment and fine upto fifty rupees in criminal cases. No civil powers are granted to him. He pays Rs. 432 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda, as a tribute.

Residence.—Wasan-Virpur, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

WASAVAD.

Area.—17 sq. miles. Population.—3,837. .

Revenue.—2,000 rupees.

Wasavad was founded by a shepherd named Wasa near a *Vad* (banyan) tree, and hence it came to be known as Wasavad. Formerly it was assigned in *giras* by the Rah of Junagarh to one of his cadets, from whose descendant it was wrested by the Sultan of Gujarat at the time of the conquest of Sorath. During the Mughal rule, Wasavad was the principal town of a *pargana* of that name, and comprised 97 villages. The *Taluka* is at present held by eight sharers—Labhshankar Ranchhodji and others—who are Nagar Brahmans by caste. They have obtained the grant of this *Taluka* in *Desaigiri*. They are enrolled in the sixth class of chiefs of Kathiawad, and enjoy the powers exercised by that class. Wasavad is situated at a distance of 12 miles to the north-west of the Chital Railway Station.

Residence.—Wasavad, Kathiawad Agency; Bombay Presidency.

WASNA.

Area.—9 sq. miles. Population.—5,741.

Revenue.—16,653 rupees.

The Chief of Wasna is a descendant of a junior member of the fami-

ly of Jodha, the founder of Jodhpur, who in 1459 transferred his court there from Mandor. His ancestor accompanied Musal Shah to Gujarat in 1476, and settled with his followers at Prantij. Chhala near Sadra was their next home from 1556 till 1629, when finally they shifted to Wasna and made it their permanent residence.

Vakhat Sinh, the present ruling Chief, succeeded to the *gadi* as a minor on the 7th October 1875 after the death of his father. Owing to his minority the State was taken under British management, and the Thakore was sent to receive education at the Rajkumar College at Rajkot. On attaining the age of majority he was invested with full powers. The Thakore is a Rajput of the Rathod clan, and is ranked as a fifth class Chief in the Mahi Kantha Agency, so his criminal powers empower him to inflict punishment for six months and fine upto Rs. 250, while in civil cases he is competent to hear and dispose of suits to the amount of Rs. 1,000.

Residence.—Wasna, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

WISRORA.

Area.—Unknown. Population.—1,643.

Revenue.—1,630 rupees.

Prathi Rajji, Makwana Koli by caste, is the present Thakore. He pays Rs. 560 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda as a tribute. The Thakore is enlisted in the seventh class among the chiefs of Mahi Kantha, so his criminal powers entitle him to inflict rigorous imprisonment for one month and fine upto Rs. 50, while in civil cases he is competent to hear and dispose of suits to the amount of Rs. 250.

Residence.—Wisrora, Mahi Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

WOHORA.

Area.—2 sq. miles. Population.—Unknown.

Revenue.—7,097 rupees.

Mota Bawa, Rathod Molesalam Girasia by caste, is the present Thakore. He pays Rs. 852 to H. H. the Gaekwad of Baroda as a tribute through the Political Agent of Rewa Kantha. Neither civil nor criminal powers are enjoyed by him.

Residence.—Wohora, Rewa Kantha Agency; Bombay Presidency.

PART III.

ZAMINDARS, TALUKDARS AND OTHER NOBLES.

ABDUL GHANI, KHWAJA SIR, K. C. S. I., *Nawab of Dacca.*

The ancestors of the Nawab came from Kashmir. They belonged to the Bonda family. Their migration to Bengal and settlement at Sylhet date as far back as the reign of the Emperor Mahmud Shah. Khwaja Alimullah, the father of Sir Abdul Ghani, was the grandson of Maulvi Abdullah, who was the first to establish himself in the new family residence. Abdul Ghani is widely known in Bengal as a munificent public spirited citizen of Dacca, which he has richly decorated by many public buildings of great beauty. During the Mutiny he assisted the Government with counsel, intelligence and funds. During the Bengal famine he placed at the disposal of the Government his steamer, 'The Star of Dacca.' He has founded a Free School and a Madrasa for Mahomedan students. He received the title of C. I. E. in 1871; that of Nawab as a personal distinction in 1875; the same title was made hereditary in 1877. He further received the title of K. C. S. I., in 1886, as a token of the appreciation of his works of public utility by the Government. He was born in 1813. He has a son born in 1846, named Hon. Ahsanulla.

ACHAL SINH (of Kaimahra), *Raja.*

The Rajas of Kaimahra represent the senior branch of the Janwar family, which belonged to the Chauhan clan. It migrated from Rajputana in the sixteenth century to take service under the Sayyids of Pihani.

The post of the Chaudhri of Kheri was conferred on Jamni Khan in 1553, by Sayyid Khurd with a right to levy a cess on lands throughout the *paragana*.

The present Raja Achal Singh was born in 1880, and succeeded Raja Narpal Singh in 1886. The family residence is Kheri.

AHMUD HUSSAIN KHAN, *Nawab of Fatehpur.*

The family of the Nawab is of a Persian stock, having accompanied from Teheran, the Mughal Emperor Humayun. Sayyid Ikram-ud-Din Ahmud was appointed a *mansabdar* by Emperor Akbar. His descendants to the fourth degree continued in the Imperial service at Delhi. Nawab Zain-ul-Abdin Khan, the fifth in descent, went to Oudh, where he was employed as the *chakladar* of Kora and Kara and very extensive *jagirs* were granted to him in the Fatehpur District by the Nawab Vazier Asaf-ud-Daulah. Nawab Bakar Ali Khan, his son and successor, transferred to Fatehpur and made it his seat of residence. His brother Nawab Sayyid Mahmud Khan, the father of the present Nawab, succeeded to the *jagir* on his death. The present Nawab Ahmud Hussain Khan has two sons, Ali Hussain Khan and Bakar Hussain Khan.

AHMUD HUSSAIN KHAN (of Pariawan), *Shaikh, Khan Bahadur.*

Haji Abdul Rauf joined the army of the great conquering king of the Ghorî dynasty, Shahb-ud-Din, from Mecca and accompanied him during his invasions to India. He was rewarded by the Shah for his great service by conferring on him the estate of Pariawan revenue-free; consisting of eight villages. Nawab Sadat Ali Khan of Oudh assessed the villages. During the Mutiny, Haji Shaikh Dost Mahmud, the father of the present holder, remained faithful to the British Government and for his services during the critical period, he was rewarded by the hereditary title of Khan Bahadur in 1877. He died in the same year, while in Medina during his pilgrimage to Mecca.

The present Khan Bahadur was born in 1865, and succeeded to the estate in 1877. He is an Honorary Magistrate.

ALLAHDAD KHAN, *Nawab.*

The family to which the present Nawab, Allahdad Khan, belongs is an Afghan one of the Saddozai race. It was founded by Sarbuland, who became the first Nawab of Mankerah, and held Derajat under the Nawab of Multan. The Mankerah territory was obtained by him through the good

offices of the Kabul government. He died in 1816. He was succeeded by his daughter's son, Hafiz Ahmud Khan. His son and successor, Nawaz Khan, was bereft of all the family possessions by the Lion of the Punjab, who put him in possession of a considerable portion of the territory on his coming to terms with him. Nawab Sarfaraz Khan, the father of the present title holder, succeeded him. He was created a C. S. I. He died in 1889.

Dera Ismail Khan in the Punjab is the family residence of the Nawab.

AMANAT FATIMA, *Begum of Basitnagar.*

The husband of the Begum, Nawab Dost Ali Khan belonged to a Pathan family. He is a descendant in the line of Dildar Khan, the third son of Nawab Diler Khan, who was a distinguished officer of Emperor Aurangzeb. He was deputed by the Emperor to punish the Pande Panwar Brahmans, who had plundered the Imperial treasury. For bringing the mission to a successful termination, he was granted extensive *jagirs* with titles of Nawab and *Haft Hazari*. He founded the city of Shahabad in the Hardoi district of Oudh and built the well-known fort of Bari Deohri. The *jagirs* were enjoyed by his descendants rent free till they were assessed by Sadat Ali Khan of Oudh. The title of Nawab was recognized as hereditary by the Government in 1864, in which year the Nawab Dost Ali Khan died. He was succeeded by Nawab Hussain Ali Khan, on whose death in 1871, the Begum came in possession of the family estate. The Begum resides at Shahabad.

AMRIK SINH, CHHACHI, *Sardar.*

The father of Sardar Amrik Sinh succeeded his father-in-law, Sirdar Gurmukh Sinh's *jagir*. Sardar Nehal Sinh remained steadfast to the British cause during the rebellion of 1848; and for his unflinched loyalty during the Mutiny the British Government bestowed on him additional *jagir*. The present Sardar went down to Oudh at the head of his retinue and rendered great assistance in restoring order and curbing mutinous spirits. His family residence is Rawalpindi.

SIR P. ANANDA GAJAPATI RAZ, *Maharaja of Vizianagram.*

The Maharaja claims descent from the younger brother of a former Bana of Udaipur. He is a large land-owner in the Madras Presidency and has received many marks of distinction from the Paramount Power.

During the Mughal Empire, the family also deserved well of their government and many titular distinctions were bestowed on it. The late Maharaja Sir Viziamram was the father of the present Maharaja Sir P. Ananda Gajapati Raz. He was a member of the Viceregal Legislative Council and was entitled to a Darbar salute. He died in 1878. The present Maharaja is an enlightened prince, being a Fellow of the University of Madras, twice appointed Member of the Local Legislative Council and once of the Imperial Council. He was created a K. C. I. E. in 1887 and a G. C. I. E. in 1892. The family claim to an hereditary title was recognised by the Government in 1890 and the title of Maharaja as a mark of personal distinction is bestowed on him.

ARJUN SINH (of Chahal), *Sardar*.

The Sardar belongs to a Chahal Jat family. Katha Sinh, the founder of the family, was in the service of the Bhangi chiefs, when they took Lahore in 1764. When the power of the Bhangis was broken by Ranjit Sinh, his son, Karam Sinh, transferred his allegiance and his services to the Standard of the conquering hero and he rose to the rank of a very powerful Sardar in his army. He lost his life in the field of Theri, in the campaign against the Yusufzais. Owing to the death of his eldest son, Gurmukh Sinh, at Kohat by cholera, the family estate was greatly reduced during the minority of Joala Sinh, the father of the present Sardar, by the resumptions of Ranjit Sinh. The present Sardar, born in 1845, succeeded his father in 1852. Amritsar is the family residence.

AZMAT ALI KHAN, *Nawab of Karnal*.

The ancestors of the Nawab belong to the Jat family, tracing their descent from king Naushirwan. The great grand father, Mahmudi Khan, of the present Nawab, served, with his two brothers, under the Marathas at the head of 200 horsemen and was granted vast portions of lands in Muzaffarnagar and elsewhere. During the Maratha War Mahmudi Khan helped the British army, and at its close transferred his lands in the Doab for the *paragna* of Karnal; one third of this passed in the possession of the ancestor of Nawab Azmat Ali Khan. During the Indian Mutiny of 1857, the Nawab Ahmud Ali Khan, father of Azmat Ali Khan, succoured the British Government most loyally, and on the restoration of the order his services were duly recognised. The present Nawab received the title of that style in 1868; and the title of Bahadur was added subsequently in the year 1891.

BADAN SINH (of Malaudh), *Sardar*.

The Sardars of Malaudh are the representatives of the Phulkian stock and belong to a Jat Sidhu family. The estate is situated in the Ludhiana division of the Punjab. It was conquered from the Afghans of Maler Kotla in 1754. Mit Sinh, the father of the present Sardar, Badan Sinh, and his brother, Fateh Sinh, fought on the British side at the battles of Mudki and Firuzshahr at the head of their contingent of fifty horse during the first Punjab War (1845-1846). Their fidelity to the British Raj during the Mutiny was rewarded by 'the remission of a year's commutation money and of one-sixteenth of the whole sum in perpetuity.' During the Kuka troubles the present Sardar was badly wounded in a skirmish with the insurgents.

BAKSHSHISH SINH (Sindhawalia), *Sardar*.

The Sindhawalia family to which Sir Bakhshish Sinh belongs is a Jat family of the Sansi tribe. It claims to be the representative of the same stock from which was descended the late Royal family of Lahore. Budh Sinh, the common ancestor, had two sons, Chanda Sinh and Jodh Sinh. The former was the fore-father of the late Sardar Shamsher Sinh, by whom the present Sardar was adopted with the consent of the Government. During the first Punjab War, he espoused the British cause and consequently he was given a seat in the Council of Regency, appointed in December of 1846. When the Punjab was annexed, he was not disturbed in his possessions, which were continued to him for his life. In 1862, he was given the right of adoption and his title as well as his *jagir* were made transmissible hereditarily.

BALDEO SINH, *Raja of Awa*.

Bakht Sinh, the grandson of Thakore Chhatarbhuj, who was a Zamindar of Nari, in Chhata *paragna*, and settled at Jalesar during Emperor Mahmud Shah's reign, established himself as an independent Raja. He obtained the permission from the Peshwa's government to build the fort at Awa, which was subsequently erected by his son, Hira Sinh. The possession of the fort was confirmed by Lord Lake in 1803 for the assistance rendered by Hira Sinh to him during the Maratha War. His son, Pitambar Sinh, was recognised by Lord Auckland's Government in 1838 as the Raja of Awa. His adopted son, Raja Pirthi Sinh, did such excellent service during the Mutiny that the District officer reported of him; "In fact he held the country till the taking of Delhi and the arrival of our own troops enabled

us to resume possession." His son, Raja Chhatarpal Sinh, then a minor, succeeded him in 1876. The present Chief, Baldeo Sinh, succeeded him in 1884. He belongs to a Jadav Rajput family and is the cousin of the late Raja. The Raja resides at Awagarh.

BALWANT SINH (of Bir Chima), *Sardar*.

Balwant Sinh is the son of Hakikat Sinh of Bir and belongs to the junior branch of the Phulkian family of Malaudh. The death of his brother, Ranjit Sinh, has left him in possession of both the estates of Bir and Chima. The estate is situated in the Ludhiana division of the Punjab.

BALWANT SINH (of Rangarh Nangal), *Sardar*.

A Rajput family from Bikaner settled at Rangarh Nangal, which is situated in the Gurdaspur district of the Punjab. The head of the family during the reign of Ranjit Sinh was one Sardar Karam Sinh, who entered the rank and file of the Maharaja, when he captured Lahore and Amritsar. His grand son, Argan Sinh, fought on the field of Sobroan, and in 1848 on the side of those, who had raised the standard of revolt. Consequently his estates were confiscated, but they were to a great extent restored to him. Sardar Balwant Sinh succeeded him on his death. He is the second cousin of the late Raja of Nabha.

BEDSARAN KUNWAR, *Rani of Agori Barhar*.

The ancestors of these Chandel chiefs were two Pari Mal and Bari Mal of Mahoba in Bundelkhand, who usurped the principality of the Baland family, with whom they had taken service. Their descendants were not allowed to enjoy their usurped acquisition by the Balands, who assembled in large numbers and surprised the fort. Every male Chandel was put to death. But fortunately one of the queens of the Chandel prince being *encient* safely escaped to the neighbouring forest, where she gave birth to a royal prince. He was named Oran Deo, having been cradled on a shield. He was favourably received by the Raja of Kantit, who gave him his daughter in marriage and helped him to recover his father's possessions. The family owes the retention of its present possessions to the favour of Warren Hastings, who ordered, in 1781, the restoration to Adil Sah of the estate of which his grand-father Sambhu Sah was bereft by Raja Balwant Sinh in 1745. In 1852 on the death of Raja Raghunath Sah, the family estate passed under the management of the Court of Wards. The management lasted till the attainment of the age of majority by Raja

Kesho Saran Sah in 1868. He died in 1871, leaving a widow, the present Rani, Bed Saran Kunwar, as his only heir. Babu Jagannath Prasad Sinh of Jangaon is the reversionary heir of the estate. He is the descendant in the line of Babu Rachpal Sinh, the brother of Adil Sah. The Rani resides at Rajpur.

BHAGWAN BAKHSH (of Pokhra Ansari), *Raja*.

Prithvi Sinh, the Raja of Kalinjar, is the forefather of the family to which Raja Bhagwan Sinh belongs. It is a younger branch of the Amethia Chhatris. It also came to be known as the *Bandagi Miyan* Anothiyas in the following manner. The estate of Pokhra Ansari fell to the lot of Ram Sinh, the third son of Jamdhor Sinh, with the title of Rao on a division of the estate between the three brothers. Rao Kalian Sinh, the grand son of Ram Sinh, once saluted a celebrated *fukir* with a *Bandagi Miyan*. The Saint in returning the salute with his blessings used for him the dignified term Raja. Thus the title of Rao originally borne by the predecessors was changed for that of Raja by him and his successors. It was confirmed and recognised by the Government as hereditary on the succession of Raja Bhagwan Sinh in 1877. An attempt made to assert the independence by Raja Amar Sinh failed and cost him a considerable portion of the estate. It was, however, recovered by his son, Madho Sinh, at the time of the death of Raja Umrao Sinh. The present Raja was a minor being born in 1872.

The seat of the family is known as Rowni Haidargarh in Oudh.

BHAN PARTAP (of Imjhira), *Raja Bahadur*.

Raja Bahadur Bhan Partap belongs to a Lodi family, which has settled in the Narsinghpur district in the Central Provinces from time out of mind. Formerly the head of the family bore the title of Thakore, but in 1855 that of Rao was conferred on Raja Surat Sinh. Subsequently in 1851 the title of Raja Bahadur was made hereditary for the conspicuous zeal and loyalty of the Raja during the Mutiny. He died in 1870, and was succeeded by his uncle, Raja Manbodh Sinh Bahadur. He, on his death, was succeeded by his son, the present Raja Bahadur.

BHUP INDRA BAHADUR SINH, *Raja of Kantil*.

The Gaharwar Rajputs to which the family of Raja Bhup Indra Bahadur Sinh belongs are the descendants of the Rathod Rajputs. Their possessions lie in the Mirzanpur district. In 1758, Raja Vikramaditya was ousted from his estate by the Raja of Benares, but on the flight of Chait-

Sinh of Benares in 1781, Raja Govind Sinh succeeded in recovering his patrimonial estate. His successors were Raja Gulam Sinh, Mahipal Sinh and Jagat Bahadur Sinh, who dying in 1850, was succeeded by the elder of his two sons, Rajendra Bahadur. Before attaining majority he died and consequently he was succeeded by his brother, the present Raja. He resides at Bijaipur.

BHUP SINH, *Rao*.

His ancestor, Dulip Sinh Bais Thakur, came at the head of his followers and occupied the *paragna* of Kot Salbahan about 300 years ago. He had two sons, Rao Sinh and Karam Sinh. The present Rao is a descendant in the elder line. His father, Baldeo Sinh, did excellent service during the Mutiny for which he received a commendatory *parwana*. A certificate of Honor was received by him at the Delhi Assemblage. The seat of the family is at Bhanpur in the Budaon district, North-West Provinces.

BHUP SINH BAGGA (of Dabanwala), *Sardar*.

The family estate is situated in the Gurdaspur District in the Punjab. It was acquired by Sardar Amar Sinh of the Bagga family. His son, Bhag Sinh, did not long survive him and the minority of his son, Hari Sinh, was sedulously taken advantage of by his cousin, Budh Sinh, who usurped all the family possessions. However the Maharaja Ranjit Sinh deprived him of his usurpations and assigned a *jagir* to Hari Sinh, the father of the present Sardar Bhup Sinh.

BHUP INDRA BIKRAM SINH, *Raja of Piyagpur*.

Prag, the ancestor of this branch of the famous Janwar family, founded the town now known as Piyagpur. One of his descendants, Himmat Sinh, received the title of Raja from Asaf-ud-Daula. It was recognised as hereditary by the Government in 1864. He was assassinated by his cousin Raja Krishna Prasad Sinh of Gangwal and was succeeded by his son, Narpat Sinh, the father of the present Raja. He succeeded his father in 1882 at the age of nineteen.

BIJAI CHAND MAHTAB, *Maharaj Kumar of Burdwan*.

The Maharaj-Kumar of Burdwan belongs to a Kapur Kshatriya family tracing his descent from one Abu Rai Kapur, who in the 17th century of the Christian era migrated from Lahore (Kotli) in the Punjab and settled in the district of Burdwan in Bengal. In 1657 Abu Rai obtained from the

Emperor the place of Chaudhri and Kotwal of Rekabi Bazar, under the Fouzdar of *Chakla* Burdwan. He was, after his death, succeeded by his son, Babu Rai, who owned in addition to the hereditary post of Chaudhri, the *paragna* of Burdwan and three other appanages. After Babu Rai these estates were successively held by his son and grandson, Gyaneshyam Rai and Krishna Ram Rai. Of these two, the latter obtained a royal *firman* from the Emperor Aurangzeb in 1695, whereby he was confirmed as the Zamindar and Chaudhri of Burdwan. Krishna Ram Rai was succeeded by his son, Jagat Ram Rai, who also obtained a similar recognition at the hands of the same potentate in the year 1700. Kirti Chandra Rai, who succeeded his father, Jagat Ram Rai, also received a royal mandate in 1705, in which he was described as the Zamindar and Chaudhri of 49 *Mahals* in *paragna* Burdwan. Mahmud Shah, the Emperor, in a second *firman* to Kirti Chandra in 1736 added some *Mahals* to the estate. Chitra Sen Rai next inherited the patrimony, who in 1743 received a grant from the Mughal Emperor recognising him as Zamindar of *Chakla* Burdwan and conferring on him the title of Raja. Chitra Sen Rai was succeeded by Tilak Chandra Rai, a nephew of the late Kirti Chandra, who also received a *firman* from Emperor Ahmad Shah in 1753, confirming him as the Raja of Burdwan. Shah Alum in 1765 issued another *sanad* to Tilak Chandra, by which the estate was increased and the title of Bahadur was added on to that of simple Raja. The Emperor also appointed him commander of 4,000 infantry and 2,000 cavalry. In 1768, the Emperor further enhanced his influence by making him commander of 5,000 infantry, 3,000 cavalry with the right to carry guns, flags and drums. The Raja was honoured with the proud title of Maharaja Adhiraj. Tej Chandra succeeded his father, Tilak Chandra, whose claims were duly recognised by the supreme authority by the grant of a *sanad* in 1771. As he had no issue, he adopted as his son and heir Mahtab Chand, who succeeded to the honors and obtained recognition of his title of Maharaja Adhiraj by a deed granted him by Lord William Bentinck in 1833. On January 1st 1877, an Imperial Assemblage was held at Delhi to announce the proclamation of the assumption by Her Majesty of the title of Empress of India and Maharaja Mahtab Chand received as a personal distinction a salute of 13 guns. At the time of the Santal rebellion in 1855, the Raja rendered valuable service to the British Crown by placing at the disposal of the war office elephants and bullock-carts for the speedy transpost of troops. The Maharaja, dying in 1879, was succeeded by his adopted son, the late Maharaja, Aftab Chand Mahtab.

He attained majority in 1881 and was entrusted with full powers, but dying prematurely in 1888 was succeeded by his adopted son, Bijaya Chand, who is the present Maharaj-Kumar of Burdwan. Born on 19th October 1881 Bijaya Chand is still a minor and the estate is managed by his natural father, Raja Bun Behari Kapur.

BIJAI BAHADUR (of Chichli), *Raja*.

The Raja was born in 1849 and succeeded his father, Nizam Sinh, in 1871. For the very valuable services of his father, Raja-i-Nizam Sinh, during the Mutiny the Government in 1859 bestowed on him (Nizam Sinh) a sword of honour, a *saniad* and a money grant. The title of Raja was conferred by the Gond Raja of Mandla in 1921 and Sangram Sinh in 1808 received a flag, a drum and a staff from the Subahdar of Nagpur for his capture of a rebel, named Mir Khan. Pahar Sinh, the younger son of Raja Bariya Sinh, was the first to settle at Chichli and Sangal in the Narsinghpur district in the Central Provinces.

BISHUN NARAYAN (of Sidli), *Raja*.

A *jagir* situated in Goalpara was assigned by a Raja of Kuch Behar to the ancestor of the family, to which Bishun Narayan belongs. After a temporary control of the Bhutan government it reverted to the British control at the close of the Bhutan War in 1865. The late Raja Gauri Narayan received the title of Raja in hereditary in 1868. He was succeeded by his son, the present Raja.

BUR SINH (of Mukerian), *Sardar Bahadur*.

Sardar Bur Sinh is the brother of Sardar Budh Sinh, who was in attendance on Maharaja Sher Sinh and who was killed on the spot at the time of Maharaja's assassination. He was deputed to Fatehgarh to attend on Shahzada Shahdeo Sinh. The title of Sardar is hereditary and that of Sardar Bahadur was conferred on him in 1888 as a personal distinction. The estate of Mukerian is situated in Hoshiarpur, Punjab.

CHANDRA SHIKHAR (of Sissaindi), *Raja*.

The Raja belongs to a Tiwari Brahman family. He succeeded his father Raja Kashi Prasad in 1873. The title of Raja originally conferred by king Amjad Ali Shah of Oudh was recognized to be hereditary by the Government in 1877. Large estates were granted by the Government for the uniform loyalty of Raja Kashi Prasad during the Mutiny and he was especially mentioned in the historic Proclamation of Lord Canning.

CHITPAL SINH (of Nurpur Chitpalgarh), *Raja*.

The Raja belongs to a family of the Sombansi race and is the direct lineal descendant of the Rajas of Partapgarh. The fort of Paratapgarh was captured by Raja Duniapat. On his death his widow Thakurain Khusal Kunwar adopted Shivratan Sinh of Karain and Tarwal. The present Raja is his great grand-son. He succeeded his father in 1852 when he was only five years old. He was educated at the Partapgarh High School. He was appointed to the Statutory Civil Service in 1881. He is at present an Assistant Commissioner in Oudh. The title was recognized as hereditary in 1866 by the Government.

DAL CHAND (of Sahanpur), *Rai*.

The Jat family to which Rai Dal Chand belongs migrated from Jind in the middle of the sixteenth century. The title of Rai and the family estate lying between Nagal and Barhapur were acquired by one Muchh Padarath, who was a great favourite of Prince Salim *alias* Emperor Jahangir. The town of Nagal was founded by him. The present Rai was born in 1827. The family seat is situated at Sahanpur in the Bijnaur district of the North-Western Provinces.

DAL SINH (of Nahil), *Rao*.

Rao Dal Sinh belongs to a family of Katehria Rajputs being the direct representative of Rao Hari Sinh, who settled in Gola Raipur in the sixteenth century. The Zamindari of Gola was conferred on Vikram Sinh by a *firman* of the Emperor, Shah Jahan, in 1645. The family had frequently to maintain their estate by means of the sword against the Pathan neighbours and at one time the members of the family consisted of a helpless widow and two infant sons. The father of the present Rao, Rao Jet Sinh, did good service during the Mutiny defending the town of the Pawayan against the rebels at the head of Maulavi Ahmudullah Shah. He died in 1884 and was succeeded by the present Rao, who was born in 1842. Nahil, the family seat, is situated in Shahjahanpur in the North-Western Provinces.

DALIP SINH (of Kulu), *Rai*.

The ancestor of the family was one Sudh Sinh, who in the early days of the fourteenth century, established himself as an independent Raja of Kulu, having come over from Mayapuri. The territory of this little kingdom was augmented by conquest by his son and successor, Raja Bahadur Sinh. Its independence was maintained till the time of Maharaja Ranjit Sinh, who wrested the country from Raja Jit Sinh; he, however, bestowed on a

relative of Jit Sinh the Wazir-i-Rupi estate. This grant was confirmed by the Government, who, in addition, conferred the hereditary title of Rai in 1846. Rai Thakur Sinh, the grantee of the estate, was succeeded by his son, Rai Gajan Sinh, the father of the present Rai Dalip Sinh. He was born in 1862.

DAULAT SINH (of Kaksis), *Raja*.

Raja Dhola Rai of Narwar was a Kachhwaha Rajput of the Surajbansi race. His son Indarpal came to Indarki and Lahar and established himself in the country by dispossessing the Meo people in 1033. The territory surrounding Kaksis was conquered by Raja Aman Deo, who was a descendant of Indarpal in the sixth degree. The estate was a good deal worsted by the roaming hords of the Peshwa and Sindhia. In 1841, on the advent of the British power, the possessions of the family were confirmed to the then head of the family. The present Raja was born in 1830. He has a son and heir Raja Raghunath Sinh. The family residence is Sikri in the Madhogarh *paragna* of the North-Western Provinces.

DAYAL SINH (of Majithia), *Sardar*.

The House of the Majithias is of the Shergil Jat tribe. Sardar Jodh Sinh, the great grand-father of Sardar Dayal Sinh, joined the followers of Sardar Amar Sinh Baggah as a feudal retainer. On his death, in 1788, his son Sardar Desa Sinh continued in the service of the Baggah Sardars till their extirpation at the hands of Maharaja Ranjit Sinh in 1809. He then transferred his services to the Maharaja, under whom he rose to high dignity. He accompanied the Maharaja's expedition to Kangra and after the expulsion of the Gurkhas, he was appointed the Governor of the Hill States. He received extensive *jagirs* from the Maharaja for his valuable public services. His fame was quite thrown in the shade by the more illustrious son, Lahna Sinh, who succeeded him as the Governor of the hill territory, lying between the Ravi and the Sutlej. He was known as Has-muddaula, the sword of the State. He was a capable administrator, a skilful mechanist and an original inventor. Several guns of his manufacture were seized at the battle of Sobraon and Aliwal. A clock of his invention indicated the hour, the day of the month and the phases of the moon. His love of astronomy and mathematics and proficiency in several languages were as notable as his scrupulous honesty and his singular freedom from corruption. But he had no back bone to face a political storm and on the two critical occasions when his presence and his lead would have saved the country

from the troubles with which it was overcome, he left it to its fate on a pretence of pilgrimage. He was invited to join the Council of Regency formed in 1846. He died at Benares in 1848. 'He was no true patriot. He did not understand that the religion of a statesman is to stand by his country in times of danger, sharing her griefs and if need be, falling with her fall.' Sardar Dayal Singh was born in 1848. The title is hereditary and confirmed by the British Government.

DHARMRAJ KUNWAR (of Parhat and Rajabazar), *Rani*.

This Rani succeeded her late husband, the Raja Mahesh Narayan in 1878. The family belongs to the Raghubansi Rajput caste, whose founder had come from Kaliangarh Sawain and obtained the *mulak* of Rajabazar. The late Raja was the Raja of Parhat, in the *paragna* of Oudh and Rajabazar, and also was an Honorary Magistrate both in Oudh and in the North-Western Provinces,

FATEH SINH (of Pawayan), *Raja*.

Raja Fateh Singh succeeded his adoptive father, Raja Jagannath Singh in 1850. He is a Gaur Rajput and his ancestors are said to have come to the district at the invitation of the Rani of Nahil to assist her against Pathan enemies. The town was founded by one Udai Singh, who headed the group of the family, which responded to the Rani's second call for help. His great grand-son, Raja Raghunath Singh, was at the head of the principality when the possession was confirmed by the British Government in 1802. On his death in 1825, the principality devolved on his widow and subsequently on Raja Jagannath Singh on his adoption by her. Raja Fateh Singh, the present Chief, is an Honorary Magistrate.

FATEH SINH (of Thehpur), *Sardar*.

Sardar Milka Singh, the fore-father of the present Sardar, was a very powerful chief of the Punjab during the closing years of the last century. On his death, in 1804, he was succeeded by his son, Jiwan Singh, who survived his father but for a year. He left as his son and heir Anand Singh, a minor. Maharaja Ranjit Singh, as was his wont, seized all the possessions of the minor giving him instead a *jagir* in the Ferozpur District. He died in 1831, leaving the present Sardar Fateh Singh as his heir. He was then only eight years old. On the annexation of the Punjab, the personal *jagirs* were confirmed by the Government to him for his life. Only a quarter of the *jagir* is to descend to his son and heir Shamsheer Singh,

FAZAL AHMUD KHAN (of Panipat), *Nawab*.

The family is said to have occupied posts of importance in the palmy days of the Mughal Empire. The present Nawab is a descendant in the fifth degree of one Nawab Lutf-ulla-Khan. His father, Aman-ulla-Khan was rewarded by the Government with a grant of lands for his services during the Mutiny.

FIROZ KHAN (of Bari), *Raja*.

The Raja is a Gakkar chieftain. His residence is at Hazara in the Punjab. The Gakkars trace their descent from one Kai Gohar, a native of Ispahan in Persia. His son, Kaid Sultan, subdued the whole of Badakshan and the Tibet. The tribe is said to have settled on the border regions as early as 300. Its martial spirit was evinced by its conquest of Kashmir and the stubborn resistance which it offered to the progress of Babar.

GAUR CHANDAR MAN SINH (of Parikud), *Raja*.

The family estate of Parikud is situated in the Puri district of Orissa. It was acquired by the ancestor of the family, Raja Jadu-Raj, during the Mughal regime. His possessions were augmented by the large grants of territory bestowed on him by Nawab Parsuramraj Pandit on whose behalf he took the field against the Subahdar of the Province and defeated him. A considerable portion of the family possessions was seized by the Raja of Khurda, who defeated Raja Harisebak at the close of the last century. Raja Chandra Sikhar Man Sinh, the father of the present Raja, came forward with a handsome contribution towards the relief of the famine stricken province in 1866 and the Government created him a K. C. S. I. He died in 1872.

GHANSHAM SINH (of Mursan), *Raja*.

The chiefs of the estate are Jat Rajputs of the Baisni sept. Their ancestor was one Makhan, who removed from Rajputana and settled in the neighbourhood of Mursan. His great-grandson, Thakur Nand Ram, died in 1696. He left behind him a numerous progeny of fourteen sons. One of them, Zulkaran, had a son Khusal Sinh, who was a favourite of the Nawab Vazier Sadut Khan of Oudh and consequently was granted an extensive territory in *inam*. He died in 1749. His son, Phup Sinh, also made considerable addition to the family estate, the extent of which is indicated by the fact that the estate holder assumed the dignified title of Raja, which has since been confirmed and recognized as the hereditary title of the Thakur by the British Government. His son, Raja Bhagwant Sinh, succeeded to the

jagir in 1798. He was a faithful ally of the British Government and rendered valuable services during the campaign conducted by Lord Lake at the opening of the present century. A *jagir* was granted to the Thakur by the British Government. On his death, he was succeeded by Raja Tikam Singh in 1823. He, too, remained loyal to the British cause during the Mutiny, and in 1859 the title of Raja was made hereditary in the family. He was also created a C. I. E. He was the grandfather of the present Thakur Raja Bahadur Ghansham Singh, who succeeded him in 1878. The present Thakur is an Honorary Magistrate. •

HARBANS SINGH, *Raja*.

The Raja was born in 1846. He is the brother and the adopted son of Raja Tej Singh, who led the Sikh army in the First Punjab War. He was elected the President of the Council of Regency and subsequently was made Raja of Sialkot. On the annexation of the Punjab, his *jagir* was confirmed to him for his life for his fidelity to the British cause during the Second Punjab War. At the time of the Mutiny he raised his retinue and contributed largely to the preservation of order in the Punjab by his personal example and services. In 1862, the Government recognized his services by granting two-thirds of the *jagir* in perpetuity. The right of adoption granted to him by a *sanad*, was exercised by him in favour of his brother, the present Raja. He died in 1862. The family residence of the Raja is Lahore.

HARBANS SINGH (of Kandaula), *Sardar*.

Sardar Dayal Singh, the grand father of the present Sardar, was the grandson of Sardar Khusal Singh, the conquerer of Manjha (Central Punjab) and the town of Jalandhar. The Cis-Sutlej possessions of the family were taken hold of by the great Maharaja, but ultimately they passed under British Protection, when the Cis-Sutlej States sought it on being alarmed by the aggrandizing policy of their powerful but unscrupulous neighbour. During the Mutiny, the family remained loyal to the Government and consequently large remissions were made in the monetary claims of the Government.

HARDIT SINGH, *Roza, Sardar*.

Sardar Khan Singh, the father of Hardit Singh, was a brave and experienced warrior. He was formerly in the service of the Bhangi chieftains, who rewarded him by the government of the village of Nodhpur. After the strength of the family was broken and their stronghold, the town of Lahore,

was captured by Maharaja Ranjit Singh, he entered the Maharaja's service and was appointed the commandant of the Life Guards. He served in the several expeditions of the Maharaja against Kulu and Mandi with zeal and courage. He was promoted to the rank of a Colonel on being wounded in an attack on Raja Suchet Singh. He fought on the Sikh side in the battles of Sobraon and Firozshahr. His *jagirs* were confiscated, but a pension was granted by the British Government at the time of the annexation of the Punjab. When the Mutiny broke out, he was the first to be summoned by Sir John Lawrence for service, who started at once for Delhi with his retainers. In one of the sallies he was severely wounded. For his splendid services on this occasion a large portion of his *jagirs* was restored to him. He died in 1864 and was succeeded by his son, the present Sardar, Hardit Singh. The family residence of the Sardar is Lahore.

HARI RAJ SINGH, *Raja of Kashipur.*

Raja Baz Bahadur, the Chand Raja of Kumaun, who ruled between 1638 and 1678, had a brother, named Pahar Singh. His grandson Mohan Singh was the Bakshi of the army during the reign of Raja Dip Chand (1748-1777.) He organized a military revolt, seized the *gadi* and threw the Raja into prison. He mounted the *gadi* and proclaimed himself the Raja. He lost his life eleven years after, in a successful attempt that Harak Deo Toshi made to recover the principality. His brother, Lal Singh, with the help of Faizulla Khan of Rampur regained the lost possessions and placed his nephew, Mahendra Singh, on the *gadi*.

In 1790, the Gurkhas led an army against the State and in an open battle defeated Mahendra Singh's troops. He had to seek refuge at Kota and at Kilpuri he was engaged in collecting an army with a view to recover Kumaun. He was, however, anticipated by the Gurkhas, who drove him and his adherents from their new head-quarters. When he had lost every inch of his possessions and exhausted all the resources, he repaired to the Oudh Court and invoked the Nawab Vazier's aid, representing to him that his sovereignty over Tarai was menaced by the Gurkha's host. A war between the two powers was averted by the timely intervention of Mr. Cherry. A treaty was concluded, whereunder the Gurkhas gave up all claims to the low countries. A tract in Tarai was assigned to the family of Mahendra Singh for its subsistence which being neglected soon grew into a worthless unhealthy swamp. The British Government were graciously pleased to give in exchange for it a small tract in Chachait in the Pilibhit district on the representation of the family. Mahendra Singh's son, Partap

Sinh was allowed an allowance of 250 rupees per mensem by the British Government on being petitioned to, when he failed in his suit against his uncle, Lal Sinh, for a share in Chachait in 1820. Guman Sinh, the son of Lal Sinh, received a *sanad* from the Government confirmatory of his possessions in 1828. During the Mutiny his son, Shivraj Sinh, did capital service to the Government. He was, therefore, created a C. I. E., and was conferred some additional territory. He died in 1886, and was succeeded by his son and heir, the present Raja, Hari Raj Sinh. He is married to a daughter of Raja Kupendra Bikram Sinh of Nepal and has got a son by her, named Kunwar Udaya Raj Sinh. He is also an Honorary Magistrate.

HARIHAR DATT DUBE (of Badlapur), *Raja*.

Raja Harihar Datt Dube, the present Raja, is an Honorary Magistrate. He belongs to a Dube Brahmin family and is the great grandson of Raja Sheo Lal Dube, who was a wealthy banker at Amauli in Fatehpur. In 1788 he was appointed a farmer of revenues of the Jaunpur District. He gained the title of Raja for his having killed a noted rebel, Saltanat Sinh, and in 1797 a *sanad* confirmatory of the Taluka of Badlapur was granted to him. The Raja resides at Jaunpur.

HARNAM SINH (of Kharar), *Sardar*.

The estate in Kharar in the Ambala Division was secured by Sardar Dharam Sinh, the eldest son of Sardar Dayal Sinh. The possessions acquired by Sardar Dayal Sinh, the ancestor of the family, in the three districts, Hoshiarpur, Firozpur and Ambala, were wrested from him by Maharaja Ranjit Sinh. Sardar Ganda Sinh, the grandson of Dharam Sinh, received a *khilat* from the Government for his services during the Mutiny. He died in 1876, when the present Sardar, Harnam Sinh, succeeded to the family estate. The family residence of the Sardar is Ambala.

HARSA SINH (of Mugalchak), *Sardar*.

The Sardar belongs to a Sikh family, well known for its warlike instincts. His father, Sardar Anup Sinh of Probyn's Horse, took a prominent part in the campaigns of 1857, 1858 and 1859. He took part in the China campaign in 1860, and also accompanied the punitive force sent to quell the frontier disturbances. He received the order of valour on two occasions. He went to England with His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. He was graciously received by Her Majesty the Queen Empress. He died in 1885.

HIRA SINH, MAN (of Manawala), *Sardar*.

The Sardar belongs to a Man Jat family. Its ancestor was one Sardar Sarja Sinh. Sardar Budh Sinh, the grandson of Sarja Sinh, took part in the First Punjab War and subsequently accompanied Raja Sher Singh's brigade to Kashmir. In the Second Punjab War, he fought under Major Nicholson and was severely wounded at Margalla Pass. At the close of the campaign he was granted a large tract of land in Amritsar. He was succeeded by the present Sardar. He resides at Amritsar.

INDAR KUNWAR, *Maharani of Balrampur*.

Raja Ganesh Singh of the Janwar family of Ikauna, in the Bahairch District, had a younger brother, Raja Madho Singh, who conquered a tract between the Rapti and the Kuana rivers and set himself up there. His son, Balram Singh, founded the town of Balrampur. The family was constantly involved in disputes with the Nawab Vazier of Oudh, but by far the most famous of the line was Raja Newal Singh, who ascended the *gadi* in 1777. The late Raja, Digbijai Singh, succeeded to the Taluka in 1836. His unflinched fidelity and notable activity during the Mutiny in favour of the British Government were so very conspicuous that he was specially mentioned in the historical Proclamation of Lord Canning. He was created a K. C. S. I. in 1866. He was nominated as an additional member of the Viceroy's Legislative Council for sometime, and was entitled to a personal salute of nine guns. He died in 1882. His widow, Maharani Indar Kunwar, adopted Udit Narayan Singh as the son and heir of the late Raja. The adoption was recognized by the Government in 1883.

INDRA BIKRAM SINH (of Raipur Ikdaria, Itaunja), *Raja*.

The Raja succeeded his brother, the late Raja Jagmohan Singh in 1881 at the age of sixteen. He belongs to a Puar Rajput family of the Vasistha *gotra*. He attained majority in 1886, when he was put in possession of his estate. He is educated at the Canning College, Lucknow. He is a descendant of Deo Ridh Rai, the eighth son of Raja Rudra Sah of Deogarh. A large square stone is held in great reverence and is said to be the title deed of the family, brought from Delhi by their ancestor, who entered the service of the kings of Delhi and held important posts under them. The title of Raja was in the first instance assumed by Rai Dingar Deo and recognized as hereditary by the Government in 1877. The Raja resides at Itaunja.

ZAMINDARS, TALUKDARS AND OTHER NOBLES. (19)

JAGAT BAHADUR (of Umri), *Raja*.

After the fall of Kanauj, Balbhadra Dikhit, the forefather of Raja Jagat Bahadur, built the famous fort of Bilkhar, the vast ruins of which are to be seen to this day in the *mauza* of Agyapur. The chiefs of the fort came to be known as Bilkharis, whose representative the Raja Jagat Bahadur is, in the line of Ghaibhar Sah, the fourth son of Jaswant, who was the grandson of the founder of the fort. The possession of the fort and a considerable portion of the territory were lost to the descendants of the founder in the time of Raja Ram Deo, being deposed by his son-in-law, Bariar Singh Bachgoti. Raja Jagat Bahadur succeeded to the family possessions in the Pratapgarh district of Oudh in 1872, at the age of twenty-two.

JAGNISHAN SINH (of Atra Chandapur), *Raja*.

The Raja has descended from Kanh, the founder of Kanhpur and hence is known as a Kanhpuria Rajput. When Sadat Khan became the ruler of Oudh, the family estate was held by Raja Mandhata Singh, the seventh in descent from Raja Madan Singh of Simrauta. Half the estate was confiscated by the Government on account of Raja Shivdarshan Singh having joined the malcontents during the Mutiny. Raja Jagnishan Singh succeeded the estate at the age of twenty-three in 1864. He is an Honorary Magistrate. He received a medal of Honour at the Delhi Assemblage and was created a C. I. E. Chandarpur, the family seat, is situated in the Rai Bareli district of Oudh.

JAIBANS KUNWAR (of Kaithola), *Rani*

The Rani is the widow of the late Raja, Mahesh Bakhsh, the last chief of Kaithola, in the twentieth degree from the founder of the Kanhpuria family of which the chiefs of Kaithola are recognized as the head. The late Raja died in 1881. The estates situated in the Pratapgarh district of Oudh were managed for some time by the Government and subsequently handed over to the Rani. She resides at Pratapgarh.

JANAK PRIYA, *Rani*.

The Rani is the last surviving widow of the late Raja Narayan Singh of Sambalpur, who was a Chauhan Rajput. Sambalpur was captured in about 1445 by Chauhan Balram Das. It passed to his elder son, Raja Hirda Narayan. It is situated in the Central Provinces. The Rani resides at Sambalpur.

JANG BAHADUR KHAN (of Nanpara), *Raja..*

The estate of Nanpara in the Bahraich district of Oudh was granted to Rasul Khan, a Fogh Pathan, by Emperor Shah Jahan in 1632, for successfully dispersing the Banjaras, who were devastating the *jagir* of Salona Begum, the wife of Prince Dara. The title of Raja was bestowed on Karim Khan by Nawab Shuja-ud-Daula in 1763.

The present Raja succeeded his father, Raja Munawar Ali Khan, in 1847, when he was but a child of two years and was created a C. I. E. in 1886. The family residence is Bahraich.

JANKI KUNWAR (of Paraspur), *Rani.*

The Raja of Paraspur is the head of the six Thakurs of Chedwara, who caused much anxiety and difficulty to the authorities of Oudh before its annexation. Maharaj Sinh, the second son of Achal Narayan Sinh, the Kalhan Raja of Khurasa, was the forefather of the late Raja, Randhir Sinh. He died in 1878 and was succeeded by the Rani, Janki Kunwar. She has a son and heir Bikramajit Sinh.

The title of Raja was conferred on one Newal Sinh by an Emperor of Delhi on his visit to his court. It has been recognized as hereditary by the Government.

Paraspur, the family seat, is situated in the Gonda district of Oudh.

JASMER SINH, *Sardair.*

The territory of Thol Thangor in the Ambala district was acquired by Sardar Gur Baksh Sinh, the forefather of the present Sardar, in 1759. The family remained loyal to the British Government both during the Second Sikh War and the Mutiny. The late Sardar Jawahir Sinh was succeeded by his two sons, Raja Kishan Sinh and Jasmer Sinh.

Thol Thangor, the family seat, is situated in the Ambala district of the Punjab.

JASWANT SINH (of Nurpur), *Raja..*

Raja Jit Pal, the ancestor of this Rajput family, went from Delhi and set himself up at Pathankot about seven hundred years ago. In the middle of the seventeenth century, the family under the leadership of Raja Basu, removed to the hills and founded Nurpur. Raja Bir, the father of the present Raja, offered a stubborn resistance to the progress of the army of

Maharaja Ranjit Singh during his Kangra valley campaign. He, however, had to give up his attempt and seek the shelter of the Raja of Chamba, who proved a treacherous host and made him over to the tender mercies of the Lion. He was confined in the citadel of Gobindgarh, whence he was released on payment of a heavy ransom of 85,000 rupees by his brother-in-law, Sardar Charat Singh. He rose against the Sikh government in 1846, and died during a siege that he laid to Nurpur before its walls. A large grant was bestowed on the present Raja by the British Government.

JIT SINGH (of Maheru), *Sardar*.

During the last days of the Mughal power, two brothers, Sardars Ramdas Singh and Gurdas Singh, of a Jat family, captured Maheru in the Jalandhar district. Sardar Charat Singh, one of their descendants, saved his possessions by a timely submission to the Maharaja, Ranjit Singh. A large *jagir* of eleven villages conferred on Jawahir Singh was resumed on his death by the Maharaja; consequently only Maheru passed into the hands of his son, Jaimal Singh. He rendered good services to the Government during the Mutiny. On his death, he was succeeded by the present Sardar, Jit Singh.

JIWAN SINGH (of Buruja), *Sardar*.

Buruja and the neighbouring territory in the Ambala district were taken possession of by a Jat Sardar, Nanu Singh, who came from Jhawal Madan in the Manjha or the Central Punjab in 1759. Both during the First Sikh War and the Mutiny, Sardar Jiwan Singh did good service to the Government, which were amply rewarded by an appreciative Government. He is created a C. I. E. He was born in 1842. The Sardar resides at Ambala.

JIWAN SINGH (of Shahzadpur), *Sardar*.

Sardar Dip Singh, the forefather of the present Sardar of Shahzadpur, belonged to a Jat Sindhu family and was the Mahant of "*Damdama Sahab*," or the resting place of the tenth and last Guru Govind Singh. He mustered a strong force of Sikhs under him, which he led against the Governor of Lahore. In a battle that ensued he was slain. His successor, Sudha Singh, lost his life in a battle with the Governor of Jalandhar. He and his descendants are known by the proud distinction of "*Shahids*" or Martyrs. He was succeeded by Sardar Karam Singh, who occupied some lands in the Singhpura district. In 1808-9, when the Cis-Sutlej States sought the protection of the British arms, he passed under British control. The father of the

present Sardar, Sheo Kirpal Sinh, rendered great service to the Government in 1857. Sardar Jiwan Sinh was created, in 1891, a C. S. I.

JIWAN SINH (of Atari), *Sardar*.

The Sardar belongs to a Jat Sindhu family founded by Kahn Chand. He is the grandson of the famous warrior, Sham Sinh, one of the noblest and the best of the Sikhs. Sardar Sham Sinh was the father-in-law of that reckless and vicious Nau Nihal Sinh, the grandson of the Maharaja, Ranjit Sinh. Though he was opposed to the war against the English he fought on the Sikh side with great gallantry and fell in the battle of Sobraon in 1846. He had sworn by the *granth* never to leave the field defeated. When he saw that all was lost he rushed forward with a handful of his followers against the enemy and fell dead from his horse pierced with seven bullets at a spot where the dead lay thickest. His widow, ere his body could be taken back, burnt herself with the clothes worn by him on his wedding day. A pillar still standing out side the walls of Atari, marks the spot where the last *Sati* in the Punjab burnt herself.

Atari is situated in the Amritsar district of the Punjab.

JWALA SINH (of Jharauli), *Sardar*.

The Sardar is the son of Sardar Jit Sinh of Jharauli and a descendant of Sardar Dip Sinh, the Mahant of "*Damdama Saheb*."

Jharauli is situated in the Ambala district of the Punjab.

KAMRAN SHAH, *Raja*.

The family to which Kamran Shah belongs is of the Gond origin, and a junior branch of the Rajas of Deogarh and Nagpur. The family accepted the Mahomedan faith about two hundred years ago.

The *jagirs* were confirmed to the Raja in 1860 in perpetuity for his loyalty during the Mutiny. The title was also similarly recognized.

The family seat is at Ramangan in the Hoshangabad district, Central Provinces.

KAPILAS KUMARI (of Phulgarh), *Rani*.

The Phulgarh Zamindari was during the life-time of Raja Jagsai classed as a Gurjhat feudatory State, but on his death, in 1867, without any legitimate heir, the State passed into a Zamindari in the hands of Rani Sagna Kumari, who succeeded at the advanced age of seventy. She

was succeeded by the present Rani. She belongs to a Gond family of the Chanda stock. The Zamindari is situated in the Sambalpur district, Central Provinces.

KARAMDAD KHAN (of Pharwala), *Raja*.

The Raja is the foremost Gakkar Chief of the Punjab. He succeeded his father, Hiyat-ulla-Khan in 1865. The Gakkars were a powerful race of great antiquity and historic interest. They overran Kashmir and Tibet. Under Hati Khan, they offered a strong resistance to Babar, when he marched against their stronghold of Pharwala. Under Sultan Mukarrab Khan, the last of the independent chiefs, they defeated the Usufzai Afghans and the Chief of Khattack. They captured Gujarat and advanced as far as Bhimbar in the Chib country. His possessions between the Chinab and the Indus were confirmed by Ahmud Shah Durrani, whom he frequently accompanied during his Indian invasions. His power was, however, broken by the Bhangi Sikh Chief, Sardar Gujar Sinh, who drove him across the Jhelum. He was put to death by his own tribesmen. His youngest son, Shadman Khan, after suffering indignities at the hands of the powerful Sikh chieftains, was conceded certain proprietary rights in Pharwala in 1826. His son Hiyat-ulla-Khan rendered great service during the Second Sikh campaign and the Mutiny. Pharwala is situated in the Rawalpindi district of the Punjab.

KEHAR SINH (of Khiva), *Sardar*.

Sardar Rai Maha Sinh, the forefather of the family to which Sardar Kehar Sinh belongs, was in the service of the *Sukar chakia* confederacy to which the Maharaja, Ranjit Sinh, belonged. Both the father and the son, Laha Sinh, died on battle fields in the service of the *Misl*. His grandson Amar Sinh, joined the service of the *Misl* and was awarded a *jagir*. He also served three generations of the family with great fidelity. On his death his sons were given posts of importance in the State by Maharaja Ranjit Sinh. Mohar Sinh, the youngest, fought the Afghans with conspicuous ability at Khiva in the Gujarat district for which the Maharaja bestowed on him considerable *jagirs*, which were confiscated when he retired to Benares. Sardar Dayal Sinh, the second son, also received large *jagirs*; being twice wounded severely, once at the battle of Attock in 1813 and again in the expedition against Kashmir. On his death in 1832, he was succeeded by his son, Sirdar Bishan Sinh, who survived him but two years. His successor, Sirdar Kishan Sinh, was then a child only two years old.

He was faithful to the British Government both in the Second Sikh campaign and the Mutiny. When he died in 1860, the present Sardar, Kehar Singh, succeeded him as the last surviving member of the family.

KHUSHAL SINGH, *Raja of Rajaur.*

Sakit Deo, a descendant several degrees removed from the famous warrior-king Prithi Raj Chauhan, founded Sakit. His grandson, Bhupal Deo, had two sons, Yahani Sahai and Udai Charan. The former succeeded to the *gadi* of Sakit and Rajaur. During the reign of Ibrahim Khan Lodi of Delhi, the possessions of the State were taken away from the then Raja Sawant Sen of the family. But with the downfall of the Lodi dynasty the recovery of the territory was facilitated and effected by his grandson, Chakra Sen. The family enjoyed its possessions peacefully under the successive Rajas, who as feudatory princes of the Imperial Mughal government were not at all molested by any other hostile power. Of them, one Hari Singh was well known for his great physical powers and won many battles of Emperor Aurangzeb and his successors. Sakit was lost to the family under his son, Raj Singh, being captured by the Nawab of Farukhabad during the general disturbance that accompanied the decay of the Mughal sway.

Raja Drigpal Singh, the great-great grand-son of Raj Singh, was the father of the present Raja, Khushal Singh. He has two sons, Kunwar Lal Jagmohan Singh and Kunwar Lal Dharam Singh.

The title of Raja is hereditary in the family.

KIRPAL SINGH KUNJAHIN (of Botala), *Sardar.*

The family *jagirs* are situated in the Gujranwala district of the Punjab. They were granted to the family by the Sukarchakin chiefs, whose fortunes, the successive members of this family closely followed. Sardar Kirpal Singh and his father Sardar Ganda Singh were in attendance on Maharaja Sher Singh at the time when the ill-fated prince was ruthlessly assassinated by the fierce Sindhalwalias. They were severely wounded in the attempt to defend him. They fought on the Sikh side on the field of Firuzshahr, where the father lost his life and the son was severely wounded. Being away to Hazara when the Second Sikh War broke out he escaped the contagion and remained faithful to the British cause. The British Government consequently confirmed his *jagirs* to him. He was born in 1832 and is at present 64 years old.

The Sardar resides at Gujranwala.

KIRPAL SINH (of Dhin), *Sardar*.

Sardar Parsa Sinh, from whom the present Sardar is descended, was the nephew and heir of Sardar Shaan Sinh. He (Sham Sinh) coming from Amritsar conquered the country around Dhin in the Ambala district and established himself there. Sardar Ranjit Sinh was the grand-son of Sardar Parsa Sinh. On his assassination by Sardar Kahn Sinh, his son, the present Sardar, succeeded him. The Sardar resides at Ambala.

KISHAN DATT SINH (of Oel), *Raja*.

The Raja belongs to the junior branch of the Janwar family of Kheri in Oudh. He succeeded the late Raja, Anrudh Sinh, in 1879, at the age of eighteen.

The late Raja was looked upon as the head of the Kheri Janwars. He was a man of great wealth and vast abilities. His grand-father, Bakht Sinh, built the beautiful temple at Oel.

The title of Raja was conferred by the Nawab of Oudh in 1849. It was recognized as hereditary in 1877.

KISHAN KUNWAR (of Rampur), *Rani*.

The Raja of Rampur has been the acknowledged head of the Rathor Rajputs in Northern India, priding himself on the direct descent from the famous Jayachand of Kanouj. Their Highnesses the Maharajas of Jodhpur and Bikaner are the descendants of the eldest son of Jayachand, and the Raja of Rampur is descended from the second son, named Jaipal. Prajanpal, the fifth descendant from Jaipal, leaving Kanouj, established himself at Khor, where the family remained for many years. The Emperor, Altmash, drove out Jayadeo, the fourteenth in descent from Jaipal. About 250 years after, Karan Sinh lived in Budaun. His great grand-son, Raja Pratap Rudra, aided the Nawab of Farukhabad, against the Rohilas; and so, the Nawab recognised this valuable assistance by granting the Raja the portion of the territory. The Raja Ramshai resided at Rampur, where the family still remains. The late Raja, Ramchandra Sinh, the husband of the present Rani, died in 1883, and was succeeded by his widow, the present Rani. She has a grand-son and heir, named Lal Jagmohan Sinh, who was born in 1877.

KISHAN PARTAB BAHADUR SAHAI (of Tamkuhi), *Raja*.

The Raja belongs to a Bhuinhar Rajput family descended from Mayur Bhat. Raja Fateh Sahai, the Bhuinhar Raja of Hoshiarpur in Saran, after

the battle of Baksar in 1764, was made to evacuate his Raj and so he established himself in the Tamkuhi estates, which he had purchased before, in Gorakhpur. Raja Fateh Sahai's grand-son was the father of the present Raja, who obtained from the British Government the recognition of the title as hereditary. The Raja has a son and heir, named Kunwar Satrajit Pratap Bahadur Sahai, who was born in 1864.

KISHOR SINH (of Fatehpur), *Raja*.

The *jagir* of Fatehpur was granted to the Raj Gond family, to which Raja Kishor Sinh belongs as far back as 939 by the Raja Kumal Narayan of Mundala. The hereditary title of Raja was also conferred on the family by him. The *sanad*, however, purports to have been granted in 1500. The *jagir* is situated in the Hoshangabad district of the Central Provinces.

KUMARA MADDU VENKATAPPA (of Kalahasti), *Raja*.

The ancient family to which the Raja belongs was very influential under the Rajas of Vijayanagar in the 16th century. Its importance was enhanced on the decline of the Vijayanagar kingdom. Under the Mahomedan rule in the Deccan, the Raja held a *masnub* of 5,000 horse. It was chiefly due to the friendly interest which an ancestor of the Raja, who was a local Naik, took in the affairs of the East India Company that the privilege of settling on the Coromandel Coast and building a fort was accorded to the English by the Raja of Chandragiri. He also stipulated that the place (Madras) should be named Chenappa-patnam after his father. The late Raja, Damarakumara Maddu Venkatappa, was created a C. S. I. The present Raja, who was born in 1850, succeeded his father in 1891-2. The family owns large estates in the Vellore and the North Arcot districts of Madras. The family seat is Kalahasti in the Nellore district.

LACHHMAN PARSHAD SINH, *Raja of Asothar*.

In the middle of the sixteenth century, one Deogaj Sinh, who came from Raghugarh in Central India, married the daughter of the Raja of Aijhi and succeeded to his father-in-law's estate. From him is descended the present Raja. A curious tale is told in connection with one of his ancestors, Araru Sinh, who lived about the end of the seventeenth century. Owning to the exactions of his co-sharers in the *Zamindari* of Asothar of which he was in joint possession with them, he was reduced to poverty and had to take to cultivation. One day as he was lying asleep in the field, a large cobra was seen to be sheltering him from the scorching rays of the sun

with its hood, and on resumption of the field-labour he found a gold treasure-trove. Thus miraculously enriched, he regained his position and purchased back his ancestral estate. The fort of Ghazipur was built by his son, Bhagwat Rai, who withstood the Imperial forces, but later on, in 1760, was captured and slain. Rup Rai, who succeeded him, died in 1780. His successor, Bariyar Sinh, was not able to transmit to his son the patrimony he had inherited. The powerful Nawab Vazier, Asaf-ud-Daulla, reduced it into his possession and bestowed an annual pension on Raja Bariyar Sinh. The pension was confirmed on his son, Duniapat, by the British Government in 1805. Raja Lachhman Parshad Sinh succeeded his grandfather in 1850, being the adopted son of Duniapat, who died during his adoptive father's life-time. He is an Honorary Magistrate. He has two sons, Narpat Sinh and Chandra Bhukhan Sinh.

LACHHMESHWAR SINH (of Darbhanga), *Maharaja*.

Mahesh Thakur, the ancestor of the Rajput family to which the Maharaja belongs, obtained the title of Raja and the Darbhanga Raj from Emperor Akbar early in the sixteenth century. It comprised large tracts of land lying in the modern district of Darbhanga, Muzzabbar, Mongyr, Purniah and Bhagalpur. He died in 1558, leaving five sons. All, except the youngest son, Raja Subhankar Thakur, died without issue. When he died in 1608, he left behind him six sons. The eldest of them Purushottam, who succeeded his father, died in 1642 and was succeeded by his brother Sundar Thakur. He held the Raj for a period of twenty years. He was succeeded in 1662 by his eldest son Mahinath Thakur, who ruled till 1684. He died without issue and consequently he was succeeded by his brother, Nirpat Thakur, who held the Raj for sixteen years. On his death at the close of the seventeenth century, the Raj passed into the possession of his famous son, Thakur Raghu Sinh. Under him the title held by the heads of the family was recognized as hereditary by the Mughal Subedar, Nawab Mahabat Jang. The lease of the whole Sirkar of Tirhut was obtained by him for an annual payment of a *lakh* of rupees to the Mughal Government. This transaction considerably enriched the family; for the actual annual yield of the district was something like seven times the amount agreed to be paid to the Mughal government. It very naturally excited the jealousy of the Subedar, who seized the estate and took the family prisoner. The Raja escaped the fate that befell his family by a timely flight from the Capital. Subsequently on being restored to favour, he

was compensated for the indignity he had suffered by fresh additional grants, subject to no other stipulation except that of doing justice, relieving distress and putting the country in a flourishing condition. A large mud fort at Bhawara near Madhubani built by him was the home of the family for the next fifty years. Its ruins still remain to witness its former grandeur. The life of utility was brought to its close in 1736. His second successor, Bhishnu Sinh, survived him for four years. As he left no issue, his brother's succession was recognized by the Mughal Government, which bestowed on Raja Narendra Sinh large grants through its Subedar Nawab Ali Vardi Khan. He adopted Partap Sinh, a descendant of Narayan Thakur, the son of Sundar Thakur, and died in 1760, after a secure rule of twenty years. Raja Partap Sinh built the new palace of Rajbari at Darbhanga and moved thither within two years of his accession. It has since then continued to be the seat of the family. He was succeeded in 1776 by his brother Raja Madhu Sinh, who held the Raj for a long period of thirty-two years. He had frequent disputes with the Calcutta Government in connection with revenue-payment which at one period assumed such a serious aspect that the Government settled with other land-owners. He added to the extent of the Raj by the grant of Dharmpur that he received from the Emperor, Shah Alum. He died in 1808, leaving five sons, of whom two succeeded him. The eldest died without issue in the very year, in which the succession opened. Raja Chhatar Sinh, the second son, assumed the title of Maharaja Bahadur. In 1839, he abdicated in favour of his eldest son, Raja Rudra Sinh, on the ground of old age, assigning certain villages to his second son, Bis Deo Sinh, for his maintenance. This arrangement led to a costly litigation as the second son claimed to be entitled to an equal share. It, however, resulted in a recognition by the High Court of a family custom which supported the arrangement. The Maharaja, Rudra Sinh, died in 1850, leaving four sons of whom the eldest Maheshwar Sinh succeeded him. He held the Raj for a short period of ten years. He left two sons, Lachhmeshwar Sinh, the present Maharaja, and Rameshwar Sinh.

The present Maharaja Bahadur was placed under the guardianship of the Court of Wards during his minority. He received a careful training under the late Mr. Chester Macnaghten of the Rajkote Rajkumar College. He takes a very prominent part in all the movements of public utility. He was for some time a nominated member of the Viceroy's Legislative Council, when the Bengal Tenancy Bill was on the legislative anvil. On the

formation of the Councils under the New Councils Act of 1892, he resigned his seat in the Viceroy's Council as a Government nominee, to be returned to it as a elected member of the Bengal Council. He has placed his estates on a model footing with the assistance of able Government officers. Hundreds of miles of roads have been constructed, iron bridges over navigable rivers have been built and an elaborate system of irrigation works has been carried out. Agricultural improvements have been the object of his special care. He is a liberal patron of the turf and a keen sportsman. To the public at large, he is known as a munificent philanthropist; the objects of his charity being the famine relief and medical aid. During the Bengal famine of 1873-74, he expended 3,00,000 rupees towards the relief of the sufferers. He supports two dispensaries and has opened an Anglo-Vernacular School and contributes handsomely to many educational institutions. He has built a new palace at Darbhanga with Botanical and Zoological gardens. In the year of Her Majesty's Jubilee, he remitted a large portion of the rents from the cultivators. He was in that year created a K. C. I. E.

LAL SINH (of Bheri), *Sardar*.

The forefather of the family was Sardar Mahtab Sinh, Miran Kotia, who flourished about 1761. Some territory in the Ambala district was acquired by his son, Sardar Rai Sinh. The family passed under British Protection after the First Sikh War. Sardar Lal Sinh is his great grandson and he is the cousin of Bishan Sinh of Bheri.

LAL SINH (of Talwandi), *Sardar*.

The grand-father of the Sardar was adopted by the widow of Sardar Fateh Sinh of Kalianwala and consequently inherited his large estates. On his death, in 1823, his son, Atar Sinh, succeeded him. He was given a seat in the Council of Regency, which he retained till the annexation of the Punjab. At the outbreak at Multan, he joined Major Edwards. His son, the present Sardar, was carried off by the Sikh troops, but he subsequently escaped and joined his father. Sardar Atar Sinh died in 1851, when Lal Sinh succeeded to the family possessions at the age of 29. Talwandi is a city in the Amritsar district.

LALA SAHEB (of Imlai), *Raja*.

His ancestor came from Dhamda to Mundla and received the *jagir* of Imlai in the Jabalpur district, Central Provinces, as far back as 1624. He resides at Jabalpur.

LEHNA SINH (of Mansawala), *Rana*.

Mansawala and the surrounding land in the Hoshiarpur district is said to have been taken possession of by one Jodh Chand, a descendant of Basu Chand, while on a pilgrimage to Jwalamukhi. Basu Chand is said to have ruled at Garhmuktesar about two thousand years ago. Thirty-third in descent from him, Rana Chigar Chand, submitted to the supremacy of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, who left him unmolested in his possessions. The present Sardar was born in 1801 and is at present 95 years old.

MĀDHOPRASAD SINH (of Adharganj), *Rai*.

In 1248, the ancestor of Rai Madhoprasad Singh, Bariar Singh, left Sambhalgarh and established himself at Sultanpur in Oudh. He was the brother of Prithvi Raj and a descendant of Chahir Deo. He was a Chauhan Rajput and a representative of the famous Mainpuri family. He married the daughter of Raja Ram Deo, the Chief of Patti. He was created the commander of the Patti forces. He acquired so great an influence that he succeeded by a *coup de main* in seizing the throne and taking his brother-in-law prisoner. The title of Rai was conferred on a descendant of his, named Bodh Singh by a Hasanpur Raja of Sultanpur. He fought on the side of the Nawab, Suja-ud-Daula, at the battle of Baksar against the English in 1775 and was defeated. Five years later, the ungrateful Nawab did an ill turn to his grand-son, Rai Miharban Singh, by driving him into exile and sacking his fort of Kot Bhilkar. Much of the family property was gradually regained by his successors. Rai Sitla Baksh, the youngest of his three sons, died leaving two sons, Rai Kalka Baksh Singh and Rai Madhoprasad Singh, both of whom succeeded him in turn, the latter in 1857. The present Rai is an Honorary Magistrate and an Assistant Collector. He was born in 1847.

The name Bachgoti of the sept of Rajputs to which the family belongs is a contraction of Vasistha *gotri*, which had to be adopted by the family to escape the decree of extirpation vowed by the Emperor, Alla-ud-Din, of Delhi, who was highly displeased with them. Dalipour, the family seat, is situated in the Pratapgarh district of Oudh.

MADHO SINH (of Amethi), *Raja*.

Suda Rai, a Kachhwaha Rajput of Jaipur, left his home at Narwargarh and subduing the Bhars of Amethi, built the fort of Raipur and set himself up there. His descendant in the sixth degree was one Mandhata Singh. He had no children and consequently propitiated a saint, who gave him a

ZAMINDARS, TALUKDARS AND OTHER NOBLES. (31)

son. He was named Bandhu to keep the memory of the saint fresh in the family, who came to be known as Bandhalgoti. In 1743, the then holder of the estate, Raja Gurdatt Singh, incurred the displeasure of Nawab Safdar Jang, who besieged Raipur and razed it to the ground. The Raja fled to Ramnagar, which has since remained the head quarters of the family. The present Raja, Madho Singh, succeeded his cousin, Bisheshwar Singh in 1842 at the age of nineteen. During the Mutiny he protected the European refugees from Sultanpur and safely escorted them to Allahabad. Subsequently he joined the rebels but on surrendering his fort of Amethi he was pardoned. He was created a Magistrate in 1860.

MAHA SINH (of Kharsal), *Sardar*.

The ancestor of the Gond family, to which Sardar Maha Singh belongs, was one Urdhabo Gond. He was a military adventurer coming from Garba-Mandla. A *jagir* on military tenure was granted to him by the Raja of Sambalpur. It is situated in the Sambalpur district of Central Provinces.

MAHENDRA MAHENDRA SINH, (of Bhadawar), *Raja*.

The sept of Rajputs to which the Raja of Bhadawar belongs was named Bhadauriya after Bhadaura, a village on the banks of the Jumna in the Agra District, by Achal Deo, who was the head of the family at the time of Taimur's Invasion of India. Raja Rawat slew a notorious Meo banditti, Haitu, during Emperor Akbar's reign, who bestowed on him the title of Mahendra and other rich rewards. His grand-son is entered as a *mansabdar* of 5,00 in the *Ain-in-Akbari*. During the Mughal ascendancy, the Rajas of Bhadawar ranked with the Rajas of Jaipur and Jodhpur as one of the four "Hindu pillars of the Empire." They also rendered material assistance to the British arms during Lord Lake's campaigns. The present Raja, Mahendra Singh, is the adopted son of Raja Samai Singh and succeeded him on his death in 1840. He showed "conspicuous zeal and loyalty" during the Mutiny and his levies guarded the *ghats* of the Chambal and the Jumna. He is created a C. J. E., and the personal title of Maharaja was conferred on him on 25th July 1881. The Raja resides at Naugaon.

MAHESH SITLA BAKHSI (of Basti), *Raja*.

The Rajas of Basti are the descendants of the chiefs of Kalhan. Sej, the ancestor of the Kalhan chiefs, with his brother Tej, conquered the territories of the Dom Raja of Gonda in the fourteenth century. The *jagir* of

Basti was assigned to the ancestor of Raja Mahesh Sitla Bakhsh Sinh by his cousin, Raja Achal Sinh, who was tenth in descent from the founder of the Kalhan family. It is situated in the North Western Provinces.

MAHIP SINH (af Saliya), *Raja*.

The *jagir* of Saliya in the Jabalpur district of Central Provinces together with the hereditary title of Raja was conferred by Raja Hindi Sah of Garha-Mandla on Raja Chandrahans, the grandfather of the present Raja, Mahip Sinh, for demolishing the fort of Navagarh in the Bilaspur district. The present Raja claims to be a descendant of Tej Sinh of Tejarh.

MAHMUD ALI KHAN (Hussainpur), *Raja*.

Jai Chand, the grandson of Rup Sinh, one of the grandsons of Bariyar Sinh, was the ancestor of this branch of the Bachghoti family of Chauhan Rajputs. His son, Tilok Chand, was taken a prisoner by Emperor Baber. He accepted the faith of the conqueror to regain his liberty and assumed the name of Tatar Khan. The title of Khan-i-Azam was conferred on him which in its corrupt form of Khanzadas has become the appellation of the family. His grandson, Hussain Khan, was a great favourite of Sher Khan, who visited his capital Hussainpur, which under its Hindu chiefs bore the name of Narwal. He received the permission of creating Rajas in the Oudh.

During the Mutiny, Hussain Ali, the uncle of the present Raja, joined the rebels at whose head he fought at Sultanpur where he lost his son. The estate was restored to him under the terms of the general amnesty. On his death in 1860, Raja Kherat Ali, the father of the present Raja, succeeded his brother. Raja Mahmud Ali Khan succeeded his father in 1869 at the age of twelve.

MAHMUD ALI KHAN (of Kunjpura), *Nawab*.

Nawab Nizabat Khan, the founder of the Pathan family, came from Kandahar with certain followers and established himself at Kunjpura at the close of the last century. The title of Nawab was bestowed on him by Nadir Shah, whom he aided during his Indian invasion. With the rest of the Cis-Sulter States Kunjpura passed under the British Protection in 1808-9 and at the close of the Second Sikh War it became British territory. The present Nawab, Mahmud Ali Khan, is the great-great grandson of the founder of the family.

MAHMUD AMIR HUSAN KHAN (of Mahmudabad),

Raja, Khan Bahadur.

The town of Mahmudabad is situated in the Sitapur district of Oudh. It was founded by Nawab Mahmud, who was the Governor of Jaunpur, in 1677. His father, Daud Khan, was the recipient of the title of Nawab, being a General in the army of the Emperors of Delhi. His ancestor was one Saikh Nathu, who received large grants of lands in the Fatehpur district from the Emperor of Delhi in 1360, for having successfully subdued the Bhars. Nawab Bazid Khan, the grandson of Daud Khan, received further titles of Bahadur and Muzaffar Jang from the Nawabs of Oudh. The estate was divided between his two sons by Nawab Imam Khan, the elder son being put in possession of Mahmudabad. Mahmud Ikram Khan to whom Mahmudabad was allotted had two sons, both of whom died childless. On the death of the younger son, his widow held the estate till her death in 1838. She was succeeded by Nawab Ali, a cousin of the other branch, whom she adopted at the time of her death. Nawab Ali was a man of considerable talents and a poet withal. Under him the estates were greatly augmented. He died in 1858. He was succeeded by the present Raja at the age of nine. He was educated at the Sitapur School, at the Benares College, and at the Canning College, Lucknow. He was elected a Vice-President of the British Indian Association and is at present its President. Lord Lawrence presented this promising youth with a sword of Honour in the grand Darbar held by him at Lucknow. He was created a K. C. I. E. in 1893.

MAHMUD BAKAR ALI (of Kotaha), *Mir.*

Kasim Ali Khan, the forefather of the Sayyid family, to which the present Mir belongs, was a physician at the Imperial Court of Delhi. He accompanied, as a Political Agent, an expedition sent to assist Raja Dup Chand of Kotaha in recovering back the territory of which he was dispossessed by his Suzerain, the Raja of Sirmur. The son of the Raja, Dup Chand, who was made to embrace the Mahomedan faith to obtain the assistance from the Imperial court, died childless. The throne thus rendered vacant was occupied by the physician on his own behalf. His grandson, Mir Mahmud Jafar Ali Khan, received the *jagirs* of Kotaha at the hands of General Ochterlony after the expulsion of the Gurkhas in 1815. During the Mutiny, Mir Mahmud Akbar Ali Khan was suspected of sympathising with the rebel cause and consequently the fort of Kotaha was destroyed. When it was rebuilt in

1864, in opposition to the distinct orders of the Government, it was again destroyed and the Mir was banished. On his death, in exile, his grand-son was restored to the family estate, which is situated in the Ambala division of the Punjab.

MAHMUD BAKAR ALI KHAN (of Kunwa Khera), *Nawab*.

Khwaja Safi, the ancestor of the present Nawab, was a Kashmiri noble, who took service under Asaf-ud-Daula, the fifth king of Oudh. His son, Hakim Mehndi, was a Nazim and the Prime Minister of Mahmud Ali Shah. On his death, in 1837, he left a large portion of his estate to his nephew, Ahmud Ali, who was also a Prime Minister and himself connected by marriage with the king's family. He was the grandfather of the present Nawab, who succeeded his father in 1875 at the age of twenty-four. The title was recognized as hereditary by the Government in 1877.

MAHMUD FAIZ ALI KHAN (of Pahasu), Muntaz-ud-Daula, *Nawab*.

Badgujars, the ancestors of the family, settled in the Bulandshahr district in 1185. Their Chief, Partap Singh, was invited by Prithvi Raj Chauhan, the last Hindu king of Delhi, to assist him against the Chandels. He then settled at Pahasu and received large tracts of land in dowry from the Dor Raja of Kol, whose daughter he married. Lal Singh, a remote descendant, on whom the Emperor Akbar bestowed the title of Lal Khan, was a great favourite of his; hence his descendants have been known as Lal Khani. During the regime of Emperor Aurangzeb, the family adopted the Mahomedan faith. The Emperor, Shah Alum, bestowed a large estate to one Nahar Ali Khan, in 1774. He and his son, Dundi Khan, fought on the Maratha side in the Maratha War of 1803, and consequently the family lost the estate. It was restored to Dundi Khan, on being pardoned. But his second revolt permanently dispossessed him of his paternal estates, which were conferred on Mardan Ali Khan, a nephew of Nahar Ali Khan, who had remained faithful to the British interests. On his death, the estates were divided among his five sons, one of whom, Murad Ali Khan, received the *jagir* of Pahasu in Bulandshahr, N. W. Provinces. He with his son, the present Nawab, as the commander of the Jaipur troops rendered valuable services to the Government during the Mutiny, for which a *khilat* and a grant of lands were conferred on them. Nawab Mahmud Faiz Ali Khan was a Prime Minister in the Jaipur State and the Superintendent of the Kotah State. He was created a K. C. S. I. in 1876. The titles of Muntaz-ud-Daula and Nawab were conferred on him hereditarily in 1870.

and 1881 respectively. He is a Fellow of the Allahabad University and is exempt from personal appearance in Civil Courts.

MAHMUD KHAN (of Kot Sarang), *Raja*.

The fort of Sarang in the Jhelum district was built by Raja Sarang, the founder of the Rajput family, who are Rajputs of the Janjoah tribe. Formerly they were very powerful, but latterly their possessions near the Salt Range were seized by the Gakkars and the Awans. Sarang was slain in a fight with the Afghans near Makhad. Raja Fateh Khan, the father of the present Raja, was a distinguished Chief in the sixth degree from the founder. On the family being completely dispossessed by the Awans, Sardar Dhanna Singh Mulwai, a Sardar of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, granted some lands on them. The Raja resides at Jhelum in the Punjab.

MAHMUD SALAMAT KHAN (of Azamgarh), *Raja*.

Chandra Singh Gautam, of Mehnagar in Nizamabad, had two sons, Sagar and Abhiman; the second son became a Mahomedan convert and rose to the rank of *fauzdar* in the Imperial Service. The son of Sagar, Harbans, assumed the title of Raja. His grand-son, Brikramjit, married a Mahomedan wife, by whom he had two sons; Azam and Azamat. The fort of Azamgarh was built by Azam, in 1665, for his family residence. Azmat was killed in 1688 in a brush with the Imperial troops, sent against him for his refusal to pay revenue. He was successively succeeded to the *gadi* by his two sons, Ikram and Mahabat. Mahabat also lost his life in a prison, where he was confined by the Nawab Vazier in 1731. His son and grandson, Iradat and Jahan Khan, succeeded him, who respectively died in 1756 and 1761. The overthrow of the Nawab Vazier at the battle of Baksar left a cousin of the late Chief, named Azam Khan, to occupy the estate on his behalf. He died in 1771 and the son adopted by his widow Nadir Khan enjoyed the Raj till his death in 1826. His son and successor, Mubarak, died in 1858, when the present Chief, Mahmud Salamat Khan, succeeded him as his son. His succession was not recognized by the Government till 1866. He is an Honorary Magistrate. His brother, Babu Mahmud Khalik Khan, is his heir-presumptive.

MAHMUD KHAN LAGHARI, *Sardar, Nawab*.

The Nawab belongs to a Laghari clan of Baluchis and is a descendant of Hot Khan Laghari, who with his son coming from Kohistan entered the services of the Mirs of Sind. He holds *jagirs* in the Haidarabad and Sikarpur districts. He was an Extra-Assistant Collector and is now a

pensioner. The titles were conferred on his father by Mir Nur Mahmud of Sind and have been recognized as hereditary by the Government. He resides at Hala in Sind.

MAHMUD MAHMUD ALI KHAN (of Chitari), *Nawab, Khan Bahadur*.

The estate of Chitari fell to the lot of Mahmud Mahmud Ali Khan, who is one of the five sons of Nawab Mardan Ali Khan and a nephew of Nawab Faiz Ali Khan of Pahasu. For his services during the Mutiny, a *khilat* and a grant of lands in Bulandshahr district were conferred on him. The titles of Khan Bahadur and Nawab were conferred on him in 1859 and 1877, as marks of personal distinction, which were declared hereditary in 1893. Bulandshahr, the family seat, is situated in the North-Western Provinces.

MAHMUD RABNAWAZ KHAN ALIZAI, *Nawab*.

The title of Khan Bahadur and a valuable *jagir* in the Dera Ismail Khan district were conferred on Nawab Fauzdar Khan, the father of the present Nawab, for his services under Lieutenant Edwardes during the Multan Campaign. He rendered equally valuable services during the Sheorani and Kasrani expeditions. He was deputed as an envoy to the Court of the Amir in 1854 and for his successful mission, the title of Nawab as a personal distinction was bestowed on him by Lord Dalhousie in 1856. He was sent again to Kabul, in 1857, where he stayed till 1859. Finally in 1875 the title of Nawab was declared to be hereditary and the *jagirs* to be perpetual. He died in the same year and was succeeded by his son, the present Nawab. The Nawab resides at Dera Ismail Khan.

MAHTAB SINH (of Lidhran), *Sardar*.

Sardar Jai Sinh, the ancestor of the present Sardar, Mahtab Sinh, joined the Nishanwala *misl*, which fought and defeated Zain Khan, the Governor of Sirhind. In about 1759, he acquired considerable territory in Lidhran of Ludhiana district and Kharar in the Ambala district. He, however, fled to the hills at the approach of the terrible Afghan Shah, Ahmad Durrani. Most of his Ambala possessions were held by the Chief of Patiala when he returned from the hills. His son, Charat Sinh, had several wives, by each of whom he had several children. The succession of his estate devolved on them by the family custom of *Chanda Vanda*. Sardar Budh Sinh, the father of the present Sardar, did good service to the British cause during the Mutiny for which he was richly rewarded.

MANA SINH (of Mokal), *Sardar*.

The grant of land near Mokal was made by the British Government in 1862, for the conspicuous gallantry with which Mana Sinh fought at the head of his 5th Banda Military Police during the Mutiny, of which he was appointed an officer in 1858. In 1861, he was made the Honorary Police Magistrate. A cousin of his father, Sardar Bela Sinh, fought on the Sikh side at the battles of Mudki, Firuzshahr and Sobraon, in the last of which he perished in the Sutlej in the attempt to ford the river after the bridge of boats was destroyed. The ancestors of the family occupied posts of considerable importance and influence in the Court of Maharaja Ranjit Sinh.

MANA VARMA RAJA Valiya Raja, of Kadattand.

The Samanda family to which the Raja belongs originally ruled over a district, named Vatakumpuram, whence the Zamorin of Calicut drove them away. The district which they subsequently occupied extended from Mahe to Badagara on the Malabar Coast. It was received by the family from the Raja of Kolathiri. During the invasions of their territory by Haider Ali, in 1764, and Tippu they took refuge at Tellicheri, which was then in the possession of the East India Company, and with the Raja of Travancore. In 1792, the family agreed to receive an annuity from the British Government in lieu of their patrimony. The family is subject to the Marumakhatayam Law of inheritance, whereunder the succession is with the offspring of the female members. The late Raja, Udaya Varma, died in 1892. Badagara, the family seat, is situated in the Malabar District of Madras.

MANESHWAR BAKHSH SINH (of Mallanpur), *Raja*.

Rao Ratan Sinh was the founder of the branch of the Raikwar family, to which the Raja Maneshwar Bakhsh Sinh belongs. In about 1580, the family acquired certain possessions in the Sitapur district to which were subsequently added the possessions in the Kheri and Bahraich districts. During the minority of the Raja, these estates were managed by the Court of Wards. The title of Raja was recognized by the Government in 1864, when the present Raja succeeded to his estate at the age of fourteen.

MANOHAR SINH (of Pathrala), *Sardar*.

Sardar Diwan Sinh, the grand-father of the present Sardar, acquired certain lands in the Jalandhar district in about 1759, most of which were

sequestered by Maharaja Ranjit Singh, at the time of his conquest of the Doab. The late Sardar, Fateh Singh, was the father of the present Sardar, Manohar Singh.

MOKAM SINH (of Partapner), *Raja*.

The Chiefs of Partapner claim to be the direct lineal descendants of the mighty Chauhan Raja of Delhi, Prithvi Raj. His great grandson, Raja Sumar Singh, subjugated the Meos of Cawnpur, Etawah and the neighbouring districts and established his authority in the western portion of the Etawah district early in the fourteenth century. The great fort of Etawah was built by his descendants. On the successful sack of the fort by the Marathas, Raja Partap Singh built the present fort of Partapner. The present Raja, Mokam Singh, succeeded his father, Lokindra Singh.

MUMTAZ ALI KHAN (of Bilaspur, Atraula), *Raja*.

The Pathan family, to which Raja Mumtaz Ali Khan belongs, claims descent from Khalid, the son of Walid, the uncle of the Prophet. Ali Khan of Manota was an officer under Emperor Humayun and had accompanied him in his expedition against Gujarat. On incurring the displeasure of the Emperor for letting the Raja of Bikaner escape from the beleaguered fort, he fled from his camp and joined the following of Sher Shah. He then got possession of the Nagpur Raj, whence he was driven away after ten years by his Hindu subjects. He then went to Atraula, which he besieged and by a persistent attempt for two years succeeded in establishing himself in the place in 1552. On the return of Humayun from his exile, he refused to submit to the Emperor; but, in 1571, his son surrendered to the Imperial Viceroy of Oudh and promised to bring the head of his father. He fulfilled his promise and presented himself before the august Emperor with the bloody patricidal trophy. He was allowed to return to his paternal estate, laden with high sounding titles and a grant of rich *Zamindari*. His son, Daud Khan, was a skilful archer and it is said that an arrow thrown by him in the fort of Bhinga went so deep that it was taken out only during the Mutiny. Adam Khan, Daud's son, changed the title of Malik to that of the Raja in 1650. His descendants frequently occupied themselves in border warfare with the neighbouring chiefs of Balrampur and Bansi. The father of the present Raja had espoused the cause of the Mutineers. He died in 1865. The present Raja is a posthumous son of the late Raja. During his minority (1865-1886) his estates were placed in the management of the Court of Wards. The Raja resides at Atraula.

MUSA ALI RAJA, SULTAN (of Cannanore), *Raja*.

The Moplah family to which the Raja belongs was founded by Mamali Kidavu, a Minister of the Kolathiri Raja of Malabar. He was given the place of an 'Ali Raja' i.e. Sea-King of the Laccadives and the adjacent lands with a residence at Cannanore by the Cherakal Raja. The Marumakktayum Law of inheritance obtains in the family. The family passed under British control by an agreement arrived at in 1796.

The present Raja succeeded the late Raja in 1870 at the age of forty. The Raja resides at Malabar.

MUZAFFAR ALI KHAN SAYYID (of Bahadurnagar), *Raja*.

The ancestor of the Mussalman family to which the Raja belongs was one Badar Sinh, the son of a daughter of the Ahban chief of Badiagaon in Hardoi. When he and his brother were staying with their mother at their maternal home, Badiagaon was attacked by the Sayyid Kurram of the great and powerful Mahmdī Raj founded by the Sayyids from Kanouj. Its inhabitants were put to the sword and the only survivors of the tragedy, the two brothers, were carried off to Aurangabad as prisoners.

There Bahadur Sinh was made to embrace the faith of Islam and assumed the name of Ibad-ulla Khan. He received the hand of Kurram's daughter in marriage. After the death of Kurram, he overpowered his brother-in-law and seized the throne of the Mahmdī Raj in 1734. He died in 1739 and was succeeded by his son, Mahbub Ali. The titles of Khan and Raja were conferred on his father by the Emperor of Delhi in 1730. Hundred years later, after the family had undergone many vicissitudes of fortune, Raja Ashraf Ali succeeded to what remained to the family of the mighty Raj. The titles were recognized to be hereditary in 1864, by the Government. He died in 1867, and was succeeded by his son, Raja Musharraf Ali Khan. After holding the family estate for fourteen years he died in 1881 and was succeeded by the present Raja Muzaffar Ali Khan, who was born in the year of his grand-father's death. He received his education at the Wards Institute at Benares and at the Aligarh College. The Raja resides at Muhamdi in the Kheri District of Oudh.

NARENDRA BAHADUR SINH (of Haraha), *Raja*.

The Surjabansi family to which Raja Narendra Bahadur Sinh belongs came about 350 years ago from Khumaun and settled at Faizabad under Bisram Sinh. Fifteenth or sixteenth in descent from him was the late

Raja, Chhatrapat Sinh, who died in 1859. The present Raja succeeded his father at the age of eight, Ranikatra, the family residence is situated in the Daryabad *paragana* of Oudh.

NAROTAM SINH (of Eka), *Raja*.

The Raja belongs to the celebrated Chauhan family of Rajputs, being a branch of the Pratapner House and claims descent from the illustrious Prithvi Raj, the last Chauhan Emperor of Delhi and Ajmere. The late Raja, Hira Sinh, succeeded in 1862, and died in 1876. He was succeeded by the present Raja. He has a son, named Lal Sinh.

NARPAT SINH (of Gangwal), *Raja*.

Partap Sinh, the brother of Raja Chain Sinh of Ikauna, was sent by him to guard the border estate of Dobaha from the incessant attacks of the neighbouring Raja of Gonda in 1723. He was so far successful in his mission that he felt himself strong enough to set himself up independently of his brother, as the border chieftain at Mankapur, which is at present known as Gangwal. He belonged to the powerful Janwar family founded by Bariar Sah, who was a son of the Sombansi chieftain of Pawagarh in Gujarat. Detailed family history is given in the account given before of the Balrampur estate. He was slain in a fight with the Raja of Ganda, but his son Jaswant Sinh was strong enough to hold his own against his adversary. He died in 1769. His grandson, Raja Kisan Sinh, died without issue. His successors, Raja Harsarm Sinh and Sitla Baksha Sinh, were his nephews, neither of whom had any issue. The widow of the latter, Rani Sukhraj Kunwar, succeeded him in 1885. After some litigation, she agreed to waive her claims in favour of the present Raja, Narpat Sinh, a nephew of Raja Kasan Parsad Sinh and the brother of the late Raja. At the time of his installation he had reached the ripe age of sixty-three.

Gangwal is situated in the Bahraich district of Oudh.

PAP SINH, *Raja of Hardoi*.

The Raja belongs to a Sengar Rajput family, being descended from Saran Deo, who procured the title of Raja and the *jagir* of Sahao in 1095, and whose descendants are said to have possessed the *jagir* until the Bundela invasion of Maharaja Chhatar Sal. When the Peshwa conquered Jalam, one of these descendants obtained a *jagir* from him, but Govindrao Pandit snatched it from him, for he refused to pay quit-rent. He, however, conferred the *jagir* of Hardoi, in Jalam, on him ultimately. The Raja has a son and heir by name Kunwar Nirand Sinh.

ZAMINDARS, TALUKDARS AND OTHER NOBLES. (41)

PARBAL PARTAP SINH (of Malhajini), *Raja*.

Sumit Rai, the chief of the Parihar Rajputs, settled in the wild regions along the banks of the Panchnadi in the eleventh century on the defeat of Anang Pal of Delhi. The country came to be known as Parihara from the clan of Rajputs, who occupied it. The people, who inhabit the regions, have acquired the notoriety of being intrepid bandittis and harbouring the reggamafins of society. About seventy five years ago, they removed from Jagni near Mahoba to their present home in the district of Etawah, under Raja Mahip Sinh. He died in 1857, and was succeeded by his son, Raja Bijai Sinh. The present Raja was born in 1867, in the very year of his father's death. During his minority the estate remained in the charge of the Court of Wards till 1888. He was educated at the Etawah High School. The title was recognized to be hereditary in 1889. Malhajini, where the Raja resides, is situated in the Etawah district, N. W. Provinces.

PARTAP BAHADUR SINH (of Katari), *Raja*.

Balbhaddar Sinh, the forefather of the chiefs of Katari, was descended from Rahas, the second son of Kanh, who was the great ancestor of the Kanhpuria Rajputs. The late Raja, Sarnam Sinh, died in 1869, childless. Consequently the estate passed into the possession of his widow Rani Harnath Kunwar. On her death, in 1886, she left her possessions to the present Raja, the nearest male relative of her deceased husband. The family title of Raja was recognized by the Government as hereditary in 1864. Katari, the family seat of the Raja, is situated in the Sultanpur district of Oudh.

PARTAP BAHADUR SINH (of Kurwar), *Raja*.

The late Raja Madho Partap Sinh belonged to the Bachgoti family of Chauhan Rajputs. An account of their family history is given under the title of Mahmud Ali Khan of Hasanpur. He was a descendant in the line of Rup Sinh, the second son of Raja Raj Sinh, the successor of Bariar Sinh of Kot Bilkhar. He died without any issue and consequently the family estate passed in the possession of his widow, Rani Kishnath Kunwar. The present Raja was adopted by her and succeeded her on her death in 1885. He was born in 1876. He is educated at the Ward's College, Agra. The family title was recognized as hereditary in 1864. The Raja resides at Sultanpur in Oudh.

PARTAP NARAYAN SINH (of Mahdauna), *Raja, Maharaja Bahadur*.

The fore-father of the family was one Sadasukh Pathak, who was a Sinhaldvip (Ceylon) Brahman. He was appointed to the post of the

Chaudhri of Bhojpur. His great grandson, Bakhtawar Sinh, was a trooper in the 8th Light Cavalry. When on leave at Lucknow, he came under the favourable notice of the then Nawab Sadat Ali Khan, who obtained his discharge from the Commission and appointed him at first a Jamadar and afterwards a Risaldar. He remained the favourite of the Nawab's successors and by degrees rose to the rank of a premier Raja in Oudh, and obtained the Raj of Mahdouna with the title of Raja from Mahmud Ali Shah. His younger brother, Darshan, was appointed the Nazim of Sultanpur and Faizabad with the titles of Raja Bahadur and Saltanat Bahadur in 1827. On his death in 1844, his youngest son, Man Sinh, was appointed Nazim of Daryabad, Ridauli and Sultanpur. The title of Raja Bahadur was conferred on him for capturing a revenue defaulter and that of Saltanat Bahadur for securing the person of a banditti. He was also known as Kaim Jang, meaning steadfast in war. He was adopted by his uncle Bakhtawar Sinh, on whose death, in 1855, his large estates passed into his possession. He was deprived of his estate after the annexation of Oudh, for his default in the payment of revenue. During the Mutiny, he at one time evinced leaning towards the mutineers, but afterwards saved the lives of many European refugees and took a prominent part in restoring order and suppressing the mutinous elements. For these services, a large portion of the confiscated estate of the Raja of Gonda was granted to him together with the title of Maharaja Bahadur. He was created a K. C. S. I. in 1869. He died in the next year without leaving any male issue. He was succeeded by his widow, Maharani Sobhao Kunwar. She appointed an heir in 1875. This led to a litigation, which resulted in favour of the present Maharaja, who was the son of the late Maharaja's daughter, the wife of Raja Nar Sinh Narayan Sinh of Ajaudhya (Oudh). The Maharaja whose rank is third among the nobles of Oudh, was a Member of the Legislative Council of the North-Western Provinces, in 1883, and enjoys the title of Maharaja Bahadur as a personal distinction, conferred on him in 1887. The title of Raja is recognized as hereditary. The Raja resides at Shahganj in the Faizabad district of Oudh.

PARTAP SINH (of Alawalpur), *Sardar*.

Chaudhri Gulab Rai of Bais Jat family, the ancestor of Sardar Partap Sinh, was a Chaudri of Maloha *Ilaka* in the Nabha State. His son, Sardar Himmat Sinh, first served the Nabha State with distinction and received large grants of land. He was deputed to the Court of Ranjit Sinh as the Agent of the Nabha State. There the Maharaja's attention was

favourably drawn towards him; consequently he entered his services in 1812. His rise was very rapid and from time to time *jagirs*, including that of the Alawalpur, were granted to him. His son, Albel Sinh, also served the Maharaja with distinction and on the reduction of Nalkhera, he also received certain *jagirs*. He was wounded in the battle of Tiri and predeceased his father in 1822. Himmat Sinh died four years later; whereupon most of his extensive *jagirs* were resumed with the exception of Alawalpur and Dhogri. These were apportioned equally between Achal Sinh the son of Albel Sinh, and Kishan Sinh, the younger brother of Albel Sinh. Achal Sinh joined the Sardar of Majithia against the British in the First Sikh War, but subsequently he sympathized with the British cause. He died in 1857, and was succeeded by his two sons, Sardars Ajit Sinh and Partap Sinh. Alwalpur is situated in the Jalandhar district of the Punjab and is the residence of the Sardar.

PARTAP SINH (of Botala), *Sardar*.

The Sardar is the elder brother of Sardar Kirpal Sinh of Kunjahia, under which title the family account has been given.

PARTAP SINH (of Ghanauli), *Sardar*.

The Sardar is a descendant of Sardar Khushal Sinh, who captured the town of Jalandhar and overran the Cis-Sutlej territory near Ghanauli in 1756. Sardar Khushal Sinh had two sons, Sardar Budh Sinh and Sudh Sinh; the latter died childless, the former had six sons, of whom the second, Sardar Bhopal Sinh, received the estate of Ghanauli. The Trans-Sutlej possessions of the family were sequestered by Maharaja Ranjit Sinh and the Cis-Sutlej possessions passed under British Protection with the rest of the Cis-Sutlej States. The family rendered valuable services to the Government during the Mutiny which were rewarded by large remissions in the commutation tax. The present Sardar has a brother, named Uttam Sinh. Ghanauli is the family residence of the Sardar and is situated in the Ambala district of the Punjab.

PARTAP SINH (of Manak Majra), *Sardar*.

Sardar Ram Sinh, a Jat Rajput, conquered Buner and other surrounding territory in the Ambala district in 1751. The present Sardar, Partap Sinh, and his brother, Sardar Narayan Sinh, are the sons of Sardar Basawa Sinh, who was the great grandson of the ancestor of the family. The family

was loyal to the British Government throughout the Gurkha War, the two Sikh Campaigns and the Mutiny. Manak Majra, where the Sardar resides, is situated in the district of Ambala, Punjab.

PARTAP SINH (of Mianpur), *Sardar*.

Sardar Gurdit Singh, the conqueror of the Mianpur estate, situate in the Ambala district of Punjab, was the grandson of Lala Jaswant Rai, the founder of the Kshatriya family of Fatehabad and Verowal on the Bias. He died in 1791. He was succeeded by Sirdar Dal Singh, the grandfather of the present Sardar. Sardar Diwan Singh, the father of Sardar Partap Singh, fought on the British side at the battle of Firuzshahr. During the Mutiny, the family rendered good services for which large remissions in the commutation tax were made. The present Sardar is blessed with a son, named Sardar Shamsher Singh.

PUSHKAR PAL (of Askot), *Rajwar*.

The family is a younger branch of the Katyuri ruling family of the solar dynasty, founded by Shri Utapannapatra. Abhaya Dev, a very remote descenant of his, left his paternal Raj in the valley and settled at Askot, changing the style of *Dev* into '*Pal*'. Raja Rudra Chand allowed the then Rajwar to retain Askot as a *zamindari* under the Chand Raj, when he subjected Askot. Rajwar is a corruption of Rajkumar.

RAGHBIR SINH, *Raja of Rura*.

The ancestor of the Chiefs of Rura was a Sengar Rajput. He settled in Etawah district, some six centuries ago. Raja Kushal Singh was the last Raja in the direct lineal descent. On his death, after a prolonged litigation in the Privy Council, the claims of his nephew, Himanchal Singh, were preferred to that of his widow Rani Bhadaurin and his natural son, Ghansham Singh. Raja Feteah Singh, who succeeded his uncle, died in 1857 before he could be brought to trial for his joining the mutineers. His estate was confiscated. A portion, however, was graciously restored to his son, Raja Raghunath Singh. On his death in 1887, he was succeeded by the present Raja Raghbir Singh.

RAGHBIR SINH (of Kalalwala), *Sardar*.

Sardar Diwan Singh, the forefather of Sardar Raghbir Singh, was adopted by Sardar Hari Singh, the famous head of the Bhangi *misal* and as such inherited half the possessions of the Chief in 1760. He had a son, named

Sardar Dhanna Sinh, who succeeded his father on his death. His large estate passed into the possession of Sardar Jodh Sinh, who braved his rival Maharaja Ranjit Sinh. The Maharaja overpowered him and annexed a considerable portion of his territory. On his submission, the Maharaja left him in possession of a large *jagir*. He accepted the hand of Jodh Sinh's daughter, Rani Khemkunwar, for his son, Prince Kharak Sinh. She was his only child and consequently on his death the family *jagir* was managed by a cousin of his Sardar Amar Sinh on behalf of the Rani. The late Sardar Bhagwan Sinh was the grandson of Amar Sinh. He died in 1885, having acted as an Honorary Magistrate and an Extra-Assistant Commissioner. At the time of his succession, the present Sardar was only eight years old.

RAGHUJI RAO (of Deor), *Raja*.

The title of Raja Bahadur of Deor was conferred on Janoji Saheb Bhonsle, the father of Raghuji Rao, in 1861, by the Government in recognition of his position as the adopted son of Dariabai, the Dowager Rani of the last Bhonsle Chief of Nagpur. The title of Raja is declared to be hereditary

RAJA RAJA VARMA, *Raja*.

The present Raja is the representative of the Kshatriya family that ruled over the territory lying between the Betelnad in the south to the Polonad in the north. He is officially styled as the Valiya Raja of Parapanad. It is customary with the male members of the family to marry the daughters of the family of the Raja of Travancore. The succession is governed by the Marumakkatayam Law. He resides at Malabar.

RAJA SINH, *Sardar*.

Sardar Raja Sinh belongs to a Mán family of Rajputs. Sardar Fateh Sinh, the grandson of Karam Sinh, was introduced in the Maharaja Ranjit Sinh's Court at a very tender age. Being favourably impressed, the Maharaja posted him in attendance of Prince Kharak Sinh. He served in various Campaigns and received large *jagirs*. He was assassinated on his return from Jammu, where he was sent on mission to Raja Gulab Sinh. Of his two sons, Sardar Joala Sinh was the father of the present Sardar Raja Sinh. He resides at Amritsar.

RAJENDRA SINH (of Pitorha), *Raja*.

Durga Sinh, who seized Deori in 1713, was the son of Himat Sinh, the Gond Raja of Gaurjanar. He was dispossessed of the fort by the Marathas

and slain in the contest. His son, however, received certain grants of territory in the Sagar district of the Central Provinces from his father's adversaries which were further augmented by his son, Raja Kirat Sinh. His successors, Raja Balwant Sinh and Devi Sinh, were the grandfather and father respectively of the present Raja Rajendra Sinh.

RAJENDRA SINH (of Kathgarh), *Sardar*.

The family to which Sardar Rajendra Sinh belongs came from the village of Sultan Vind near Amritsar. The village was captured and a fort built by Sardar Chanda Sinh on the death of the Mughal Governor, Adwa Beg Khan. He seized Kathgarh in 1759. The family acknowledged the supremacy of Maharaja Ranjit Sinh, and was left unmolested. Sardar Khusal Sinh was the grandson of Raja Chand Sinh. On his death, the present Sardar succeeded him. The title of Sardar Bahadur was conferred on him in 1888, as a mark of personal distinction. The title of Raja is hereditary.

RAM SHA, *Raja*.

Raja Ram Sha is the representative of the Gond Kings of Chanda. He succeeded the late Raja Gado Sha. He was the great-grandson of Raja Nilkant Sha, the last ruling Gond Chief. The seal of the family received from the Emperor of Delhi in 1719 bears the following, "Raja Ram Sinh, highest-class vassal of Mahmud Ghazi, Emperor." The residence of the family is at Chanda in Central Provinces.

RAM SINH (of Rampura), *Raja*.

Raja Jaswant Sinh, a scion of the ruling Kachhwaha family at Lahore, obtained large *jagirs* in the Jalaun district from the Emperor of Delhi in 1619. But a part of these possessions were confiscated by Sindhia. When in 1884, the district of Jalaun was ceded to the British Government the estate was confirmed to the family. During the Mutiny, the late Raja Man Sinh rendered valuable services to the Government. His estate was plundered by the rebels and he narrowly escaped with his life. A *sanad* and *khilat* were received by the Raja. He adopted the present Raja, who succeeded him on his death. The Raja is an Honorary Magistrate and resides at Rampura in Madhogarh *pargana*, N. W. Provinces.

RAM SINH (of Shamgarh), *Sardar*.

The village of Shamgarh was captured by Sardar Kirpal Sinh, who came from Godab, a village near Bhatinda and built a fort there in 1736.

He formed matrimonial connection with the powerful chieftains of Jhind, Thaneshwar, Sinhpuria and others. He was the first to join Lord Lake after the occupation of Karnal. He was the grand-father of the present Sardar Ram Sinh, who rendered good services to the Government during the Mutiny. The family seat is situated in the Karnal District, Punjab.

RAM SINH (of Koharia), *Sardar*.

Ram Sinh, the present Sardar, is a Sikh Sardar of Brahman descent. His father, Sardar Kahan Sinh, rendered great assistance to the Government by providing men and horses for the Punjab levies. He personally attended the Chief Commissioner during the troublesome times. He also accompanied the British force during the Montgomery revolt. Koharia, the family residence is situated in the Gujarat district in Punjab.

RAM SINH (of Lakhadon), *Thakur*.

The title of Thakur was bestowed by the Gond Raja and recognized by the Government. The present Thakur belongs to the Lodhi family descended from Ghazi Shah. He succeeded the late Raja Tiket Sinh. The estate is situated in the Seoni district of Central Provinces.

RAMA VARMA RAJA, *Raja*.

The Raja belongs to the Samanta family which is descended from a follower of the ancestors of the Maharaja of Travancore. One of the ancestors of the family received a share of the dominions of Cheraman Paramal, the last Emperor of Malabar. The Raja bears the official title of the Valiya Raja of Walawanad. The country which was subject to the rule of the family extended from Perengotri on the east to Trikolam on the west and from Wandur on the north to the Tiruvgapura on the south. They had internecine quarrels with the Zamorins of Calicut. Being much harrassed by the Moplahs, the Raja preferred to be a pensioner of the Government ceding the whole territory over which he ruled. The Raja resides at Angadipuram, Madras.

RAMA VARMA RAJA, *Raja*.

The account of his family is the same as that of the Walawanad family. He is styled Valiya Raja of Beypore, which is also the family residence of the Raja. He receives a *Malikhana Haq* in lieu of the ancestral estates made over to the Government. The family is governed by the Marumakkatayam Law.

RAMESHWAR BAKSH SINH (of Birsinghpur), *Raja*.

Raja Rameshwar Baksh Sinh is a representative of the elder branch of the Amethia family. It is descended from a branch of the Chamar Gaurs. Their origin is traced to a Gaur widow, who took refuge in a Chamar's (cobbler's) hut, when the whole race of the Khsatriyas was extirpated. The shelter afforded to their ancestress is borne witness to by their worship of a *rapi* or a cutting tool of a cobbler. The forefather of the family, who first settled at Amethia in the Lucknow district was one Raipl Sinh, who left Kalinjar at about the invasion of Timur. He was the youngest son of Raja Prithvi Chapd of Kalinjar. He was sent, it is said, by an Emperor of Delhi to suppress a rebellion in Oudh. He thus acquired the title of Raja of Amethia. Further conquests were made by the sons of Raja Jamdhar Sinh towards the end of the fifteenth century. Of his three sons, Raja Dingar Sinh, the eldest, was the ancestor removed seventeen degrees from the present Raja of Birsinghpur. The Raja resides at Shesgarh in the Rae Bareli district of Oudh.

RAMPAL (of Kutlahr), *Raja*.

The Raja is the representative of the ancient family which is said to have ruled at Kutlahr for about forty generations. The Raj was founded by a soldier of fortune, who came from Sambhak in Moradabad, N. W. Provinces. Half the possessions of the family were annexed by Ghamand Chand, the Katoch Chief; and the rest of the possessions were seized by Raja Sansar Chand. However, during the Gurkha troubles, the ancestral fort of Kotwal Bah was recovered from the Katoch Chief and held by the family till it was reduced by Maharaja Ranjit Sinh in 1825. The *jagirs* which the family at present enjoy were obtained in lieu of the fortress from the Sikh Darbar. Kutlahr, the family residence of the Raja, is situated in the Kangra district of Punjab.

RAMPAL SINH (of Kori Sidhauri), *Raja*.

The Naihesta branch of the Bais Tilokchandi clan of Rajputs is descended from Karan Rai, one of the two grandsons of Harhar Deo, the second son of Tilok Chahd. The descendants of Karan Rai came to be known as Naihesta from a village of the same name in the district of Unao in Oudh, occupied by two of his sons, Har Sinh Rai and Bir Sinh Rai. At the time of the establishment of the House of the Nawabs of Oudh, under Sadat Ali Khan, the family possessions were held by Raja Sadak

Sinh, who wielded considerable influence in the province. Two of his sons died childless and consequently he adopted Inagat Ali, one of his cousins, though a convert to Mahomedanism. His son, Raja Drigpal, Sinh, reverted to the faith of his ancestors. The Mahomedan fashion of keeping the tunics to the left is still retained by the family. The present Raja Rampal Sinh is the great great-grandson of Raja Drigpal Sinh.

RAMPAL SINH (of Rampur Dharupur), *Raja*.

The Oudh branch of the Bisen family was separated from the Majhauri branch by one Rai Hum, one of the sons of the Majhauri Chief, who migrated to Oudh and sought refuge under Manik Chand, the Garhwar Raja of Manikpur, in about 1193. Some lands in Derwa were obtained by a descendant of his in the fourth degree named Rai Raghu. His descendants had frequent tussels with the Kanhpurias of Kaithola, who were ever since looked upon as their hereditary foes. The *Raiyatwari* system of Settlement sought to be introduced by a Nazim of Manikpur was strenuously resisted by the Bisens, who rose against him and slew him in 1748. The fort of Kalakankar was built by Lal Hanwant Sinh in 1839. He was recognized as a Raja by the Oudh King in 1849. During the first stage of the Mutiny he was loyal to the British Government. He saved the treasury and protected the lives of many European refugees. But after having safely escorted them to Allahabad, he returned to his fort to offer a gallant and obstinate resistance to the re-occupation of the province by the British force. His only son, Partap Sinh, was killed in a fight with the British force at Chanda in Sultanpur. He submitted and was pardoned on the restoration of peace. The present Raja Rampal Sinh is his daughter's son. He has resided many years in England. He is an Honorary Magistrate and resides at Kalakankar in the Partapgarh district of Oudh.

RAM PARTAP SINH (of Mainpuri), *Raja*.

The Chiefs of Mainpuri are the descendants of Raja Udai Charan, one of the sons of Raja Bhupal Deo, who was a descendant in the direct line of the great Chauhan warrior-king Prithvi Raj. Mainpuri was occupied by Raja Jagatman, who drove away the Chirar tribe and established his sovereignty. Raja Dulel Sinh was confirmed in his possessions by the British Government. On his death in 1829, he was succeeded by his son Raja Ganga Sinh; his grandson, Raja Narpal Sinh, survived his father but two years and died in 1851. Of the two claimants, Raja Tej Sinh and

Bhawani Sinh, the claims of the former were adjudged to be preferable by the Indian Courts, but whilst the appeal of the latter was pending before the Judicial Committee of Her Majesty's Privy Council, Tej Sinh threw in his lot with the mutineers and consequently lost his possessions. They were bestowed on Rao Bhawani Sinh, who was created a C. I. E. He died in 1868, and was succeeded by the present Raja Ram Partap Sinh. He has a son Shiv Mangal Sinh, born in 1873. He resides at Mainpuri in the N. W. Provinces.

RAM PARTAP SINH, *Raja of Manda.*

Raja Bharaj Deo, the first Raja of Manda, was one of the sons of Kundan Deo, who left the country near Benares where his family had migrated after the crushing defeat of Rahtor Jai Chand at the hands of Shah-bud-din Ghorî and set himself up at Kantî and Manda in 1542. He claimed descent in the junior line from the haughty Rahtor King. Raja Udit Sinh, one of the descendants of Bharaj Deo, is reputed to have defeated an Oudh Subedar. His grandson, Israj Sinh, was confirmed in his possessions by the British Government. The present Raja, Ram Partap Sinh, is the twenty-second in the direct lineal descent from Raja Bharaj Deo, the founder of the Manda estate. The residence of the Raja is at Manda in the Allahabad district of the N. W. Provinces.

RANDHIR SINH (of Raja Sansi), *Sardar.*

The Sardar belongs to the Sindhanwalîa family of the Sansi Jat Sikhs. He is a descendant in the line of Sardar Chand Sinh, the son of Sardar Budh Sinh. Sardar Amir Sinh, the grand-son of Sardar Chand Sinh, had three sons, the second of whom Sardar Wassawa Sinh was the grandfather of the present Sardar Randhir Sinh. The plot that cost Maharaja Sher Sinh his life was hatched by Sardar Ajit Sinh, the son of Wassawa Sinh, and his uncle Lehna Sinh in concert with Raja Dhyan Sinh, whom they subsequently assassinated. The lives of these fierce Sindhanwalîa Sardars, whose hands were bloody with two regicidal murders, were taken by Raja Hira Sinh. The family residence is at Raja Sansi, in the Amritsar district.

RANJODH SINH NAKAÎ (of Bahrwal), *Sardar.*

The Sardar is the head of the Bahrwal branch of the Nakai family. The Nakai country from which the famous Nakai confederacy derived its name was taken possession of by Sardar Hira Sinh, a son of Chaudhri Hemraj, about the middle of the last century. At the time of his death,

his son Dal Sinh was a minor and consequently the command of the *misl* devolved on his nephew, Sardar Nar Sinh. He was slain in an action near Kot Kamalia and was succeeded by his powerful brother Ram Sinh. His son, Bhagwan Sinh, gave his sister Rani Raj Kunwar in marriage to Maharaja Ranjit Sinh. His nephew and successor, Kahn Sinh, took no part in the Multan revolt of 1846; though his second son, Atar Sinh, being on the spot joined with the rebels. His eldest son, Chhatar Sinh, died in 1857. The present Sardar succeeded his grand-father Kahn Sinh. The Raja resides at Lahore in the Punjab.

RAVANESHWAR PRASAD SINH, *Maharaja of Gidhaur.*

The family to which the Maharaja Bahadur belongs is a Kshatriya one of the Lunar race and was founded by Bir Vikram Sinh. He was a descendant in the junior line of the Raja of Bardi where the family came to settle from Mahoba in Bundelkhand. The Raja in possession at the time of the British occupation was Raja Gopal Sinh, who was recognized by the British Government. He was the grand-father of the great Raja Jaimangal Sinh, who acquired for the family the hereditary title of Maharaja Bahadur and the Order of the Knight Commander of the Indian Empire as a personal distinction for his steadfast loyalty and eminent services to the British Government, both during the Santal insurrection and the Indian Mutiny.

The present Maharaja Bahadur Ravaneshwar Prasad Sinh is the grand-son of this illustrious prince. He has acquired proficiency in the classical languages of India as also in the English language. He enjoys the privilege of exemption from personal attendance in Her Majesty's Civil Courts.

RUDRA PARSHAD SINH, *Raja of Singrauli.*

The Singrauli estate was originally acquired by a Kharwar Chief, who came there from Rewa. But his grandson was dispossessed by the combined forces of the Chiefs of Agori Barhar and Bardi. After an exile of nine generations two brothers Daryao Sinh and Daler Sinh succeeded in conquering back their long-lost patrimony. The title of Raja was assumed by Daryao's son, Fakir Sah, about 180 years ago. His son, Raja Rudra Sah, was in possession of the estate at the time when the province of Benares passed under British rule and as such was confirmed by the British Government in 1792.

Raja Rudra Parshad Sinh, the present Raja, succeeded his father in 1886. The Raja resides at Gaharwargaon in the Mirzapur district, N. W. Provinces.

RUDRA PARTAP SAH (of Dera), *Raja*.

An account of the Bachgoti Rajputs is already given. The branch of the clan is styled Raj Kumar. The Rajas of Dera are descended from Bariar Sinh, whose grand-son, Asre Sinh, built the fort of Bhadaiyan and settled there. The family settled at Dera across the Gumti, under the lead of one of the four sons of Bijai Chand, who was a descendant in the sixth degree of Asre Sinh. At the close of the last century, the late Raja Madho Sinh lead his army against his cousins of Meopur and overcame them at the battle of Masora in 1798. He died in 1823 childless and was consequently succeeded in his possessions by his redoubtable widow Thakurain Dariyao Kunwar. She was a woman of exceptional ability and strength of will. During her management of twenty-five years she not only maintained what she inherited but added to her possessions by annexing the valuable *taluk* of Barsingpur, after slaying its Gargbansi Thakur in 1838. She was not on good terms with the next male heir, Rustum Sah, and consequently she showed her leanings in favour of her husband's niece Dihaj Kunwar. The attempt to take possession of Dera by storm in 1846 by Rustam Sah failed. But subsequently with the assistance of the Nazim, Raja Man Sinh, he succeeded in securing the person of the Thakurain while she was away to Ajudhya unattended, for the purposes of a bath. This spirited lady suffered such a shock at this incident that she did not long survive. After her death the Nazim wanted to treat the estate as an escheat, but ultimately Rustam Sah was put in possession of it. During the Mutiny he rendered signal services, sheltering the refugees for a fortnight and giving them a safe escort under his brother to Benares. He tore up a letter from the Maulvi of Faizabad demanding the surrender of the fugitives in the face of the messenger, who brought it and bid him return with the fragments as his reply. These and such other like services were rewarded by the Government. He died in 1877 and was succeeded by his nephew the present Raja, Rudra Partap Sah, at the age of seventeen. Dera, the family residence, is situated in the Sultanpur district of Oudh.

RUDRA PARTAP SINH, *Raja of Unaula*.

The Raja belongs to a Sarnet Rajput family being an offshoot of the Thakurs of Bansi. Raja Chandra Sen had three sons, of whom the third

Raja Rāndhir came in possession of the *pargana* of Unaula. The present Raja Rudra Partap Sinh has a son and heir, by name, Mahesh Pratap Sinh.

RUP SAH (of Jagamanpur), *Raja*.

The family *taluk* and the title were received by the ancestor of the family Raja Bapuki from Raja Tej Chandra of Kanauj. The grant was confirmed to Raja Ratan Sah by the Peshwa in 1717. The late Raja, Mahbat Sah, was his grandson. The present Raja, Rup Sah, was educated at the Ward's Institution at Benares. He is an Honorary Magistrate. He has a son by name Kunwar Janmejai Sinh.

RUP SINH (of Bhareh), *Raja*.

The Sengar clan of Rajputs to which Raja Rup Sinh belongs settled in the twelfth century in the district of Etawah. Raja Mukat Sinh, the father of the present Raja Rup Sinh, was succeeded by his elder son Partap Sinh and his grand-son Mahendra Sinh. On the death of Mahendra Sinh without issue, in 1871, his uncle, the present Raja, succeeded him in 1885 after a prolonged litigation.

SAHEB SINH (of Dayalgarh), *Sardar*.

Sardar Jai Sinh accepted the service of the Nishanwali's *misl*. His only son, Charat Sinh, inherited the family possessions. The family rendered good service during the Mutiny, for which the Government rewarded them. The succession in the family is governed by the custom of *Chanda Vanda*. Saheb Sinh, the present Sardar, is the grandson of Charat Sinh. The family estate is situated in the Ambala district.

SAIF ALI KHAN KHKHAR (of Pind Dadan Khan), *Raja*.

The town of Pind Dadan Khan in the Jhelum district derived its name from one Dadan Khan, a Khakhar Rajput, who built it at the foot of the Salt Range in 1623. It soon became a thriving centre of salt trade. Dadan Khan had three sons; Shafi Khan, Fateh Mahumd Khan and Firoz Khan: of them, the first became the progenitor of the Rajas of Ahmadabad and the second of the Pinda Dadan Khan Rajas. Under Sardar Charat Sinh, the grand-father of Maharaja Ranjit Sinh, the whole Khakhar country was overrun by the Sikhs: but these Rajas of Pind Dadan Khan and of Ahmadabad were not disturbed in their possessions. The family was however stripped of all their possessions except a small *jagir* by Ranjit Sinh for their revolt against his power; and on their joining the rebels

in 1848-49, the small *jagir* was also confiscated by the British Government. But subsequently certain pensions were granted to Shamsheer Ali Khan, the father of the present Raja Saif Ali Khan.

SANT SINH (of Sikandra), *Sardar*.

Sardar Dargaha Singh conquered a large part of the family possessions in the Ambala district in 1759. He had four sons of whom Sardar Charat Singh was the grand-father of the present Sardar Sant Singh.

SANT SINH (of Aimawala), *Sardar*.

Sardar Sant Singh belongs to the Aimawala family of Uppal Jat clan. It derived its name from the name of Aima given to a ruined village in the Ambala district on being rebuilt by Sardar Natha Singh, who came there from his home at Lakarki in the Gurdaspur district in 1738. Sardar Sujan Singh, the son of Sardar Natha Singh, inherited both his father's territory as well as the extensive *jagirs* of his uncle, Sardar Dal Singh. He died in 1799 and was succeeded by the late Sardar Nar Singh. He first joined the confederacy headed by Gulab Singh formed to check the rising power of Ranjit Singh. Subsequently he passed over to the ranks of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, under whom he accepted service and accompanied many of his famous campaigns. A large *jagir* in the Jammu country was granted to him by the Maharaja on the successful termination of the Kashmir expedition. He took part in the action at Tehri in 1823 and was sent with Prince Kharak Singh to subdue the Mazaris of Mithankot in 1835-36. He fought under the Majithia Sardar Ran Jodh Singh on the Sikh side in the First Sikh War; but in the Second Sikh War he remained faithful to the British cause. The valiant Sardar died at the ripe age of eighty five and was succeeded by his only son, the present Sardar Sant Singh.

SARABAJIT SINH (of Ramnagar Dhameri), *Raikwar, Raja*.

In about 1414 two brothers Partap Sah and Dunde Sah, Rajputs of the solar race, left their paternal home at Raika in Kashmir and settled at Bukheri in the Sailak *pargana*. Partap Sah had three sons, Sal Deo, Bal Deo and Bhairawanand. These nephews circulated a prophecy to the effect that the prosperity of the family demanded the sacrifice of their uncle. The simple uncle offered his head, which was struck off. Their family quarters were washed away by the floods in the Gogra; consequently they took up their abode at Chanda Sihali in Fatehpur. Here their youngest brother Bhairawanand fell into a well, from which he was not removed in order that the prophecy of a Pandit might be fulfilled, which declared that

the prosperity of the family would last so long as the body of Bhairawanand remained at its bottom. A *Chabutra* still stands to mark the spot, and is annually visited by pilgrims of the Raikwar clan. Sal and Bal subsequently took service under the Bhar Rajas, whose territory lay on the either side of the Gogra. Sal was deputed* to the Imperial Court to represent these Bhar chieftains and Bal remained at home and officiated as their Naib. On the Imperial revenues falling into arrears, a force appeared in these territories, which overpowered them. They were slain in an action with the imperial force. The territories were then made over into the possession of these two brothers, who divided them between themselves; those on the right of the Gogra passed under the sway of Bal and those on the left remained with Sal. The former became the Raj of Ramnagar Dhameri and the latter that of Baundi. The title of Raja was assumed by Zorawar Singh, who was adopted by Ram Singh, the ninth in descent from Bal. A Hindu movement to overthrow the Mahomedan power in Oudh was headed by Raja Anup Singh Raikwar in 1751: it soon collapsed by the defeat they sustained at the hands of the Shekhzadas on the field of Chholaghat. The possessions of the family were confiscated by the Nawabs but they were recovered by the family before the annexation of Oudh. Raja Gurbaksh Singh, the grand-son of Anup Singh, joined the rebels with his cousin of Baundi during the Mutiny. The principality of Baundi was confiscated but that of Ramnagar was allowed to pass to the present Raja, who was proved to have no concern with his father's rebellion. He was born in 1827 and succeeded his father in 1857.

SARUP SINGH, MALWAI, *Sardar*.

Sardar Dhanna Singh, the great grand-father of the present Sardar Sarup Singh, was the son of Mal Singh, a Man Jat formerly residing at Nabha. He entered the service of Maharaja Ranjit Singh in 1800, and soon rose to posts of influence and consideration. He was deputed by the Maharaja to Vazier Fatch Khan to bring about an interview between them. He was successful in the mission and the proposed interview took place in 1812 at Jhelum. He was engaged in several campaigns and died in 1845. His son, Bachattar Singh, had predeceased him; consequently he was succeeded by his grand-son Sardar Kirpal Singh. He was in attendance on Maharaja Sher Singh at Multan in 1848, but as soon as he got a scent of the coming storm, he went over to the English Camp. He was rewarded after the annexation for this loyal service by a grant of

extensive territory. He died in 1859, and was succeeded by the present Sardar at the tender age of nine. He resides at Lahore.

SAYYID HUSAN ALI KHAN, *Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad.*

The Nawab Bahadur claims descent from the Prophet and Ali. Mir Jafar was the brother-in-law of Nawab Ali Vardi Khan and was placed on the throne after the battle of Plassey. On his death in 1765, his three sons by turns succeeded him. His youngest son, Mubarak-ud-Daula, was succeeded by his son Nasir-ul-Mulk in 1793 and his grandsons, Ali Jah and Wala Jah, in 1810 and 1821 respectively. Humayun Jah succeeded his father Wala Jah in 1825 and was succeeded by his son, in 1838, who in turn was succeeded by the late Nawab Faridun Jah. He was the last Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa. He resigned his position and titles in 1880. The present Nawab received the hereditary title of Nawab Bahadur in 1882. He was created a K. C. S. I. in 1887 and promoted to G. C. I. E. in 1890. In 1891, the Nawab Bahadur by an indenture confirmed the act of his father of 1880, and received a fixed hereditary position with a settled income and the family estates in the various districts attached to the title tail-male. This arrangement has received the Legislative sanction by Act of 1891. The Act in addition conferred on him the hereditary title of Amir-ul-Umara.

SHAM SINH (of Eidhran), *Sardar.*

The present Sardar is the great grand-son of Sardar Jai Sinh, whose account has already been given under Saheb Sinh. His father, the late Sardar Raja Sinh, was the second son of Charat Sinh.

SHAM CHARAN MISR, *Raja.*

In 1861, the estate and the title were conferred on Misr Baijnath, a wealthy banker of Bareilly for his valuable services to the Government rendered at great personal risk during the Mutiny. He was a Kanaujiya Brahman. He died in 1867 and was succeeded by the late Raja Kalka Prasad. On his death in 1884, he was succeeded by his minor son, the present Sardar Sham Charan Misr, aged thirteen.

SHANKAR BAKSH SINH (of Thalrai, Khajurgaon), *Rana.*

The Rana belongs to the Simbasi House, a junior branch of the Bais Tilokchandi clan of Rajputs. The title of Rana was conferred by the head of the elder branch of the family and was acknowledged by the British Government in 1877. The family has ever been active in the political

movements of the province. The late Rana, Raghunath Sinh, was induced to take up the rebel cause in the beginning of the Mutiny, but subsequently recanted and submitted early in 1858. He rendered great assistance in restoring peace and order and guarding the bridge of Bithoraghat. He was succeeded by his grand-son, the present Rana Shankar Baksh Sinh. A medal of Honour was bestowed on him at the Imperial Assemblage. The titles of C. I. E. and K. C. I. E. were conferred on him in 1882 and 1887 respectively. He was appointed a member of the Viceroy's Council in 1886. He is an Honorary Magistrate and Assistant Collector and is the Vice-President of the Oudh Branch of British Indian Association.

SHEO NARAYAN SINH (of Lidhran), *Sardar*.

An account of the family has been given under Saheb Sinh. He is the great grand-son of Charat Sinh being the younger son of Charat Sinh's eldest son, Vazir Sinh.

SHEO NARAYAN SINH (of Parkhali), *Sardar*.

Sardar Prem Sinh of the Nihang Sikh family left his paternal home at Kali in Kasur and settled at Parkhali in the Ambala district in 1754. His grand-son, Kharak Sinh, fought at the battle of Mudki on the English side. He also rendered good services to the Government during the Mutiny. The present Sardar Sheo Narayan Sinh succeeded him on his death as his son and successor. He has a son by name Surat Sinh.

SHEO PAL SINH (of Murarmau), *Raja*.

The origin of the Bais clan of Rajputs is traced to Shalivahana, the son of the World-Serpant, who conquered Vikramaditya on the banks of the Narbada by means of his clay figures and became the Emperor of India. Abhai Chand, one of his descendants, rescued the daughter of the Gautama king of Argal from falling into the hands of the Subedar and was rewarded with the hand of the fair princess together with the viceroyalty of Baiswara in Oudh. Maraumau and Daundia Khera were acquired by Siddhu Rai, the grand-son of Abhai Chand. The family escaped the direful fate of total extinction very narrowly, for Raja Satna was overpowered and slain by Husain Shah of Jaunpur. His Rani fled to the neighbouring hospitable woods, where she gave birth to a son, the famous Tilok Chand, who regained the whole territory that was conquered by his father's foes. On his death, his eldest son, Prithi Chand, got the territory of Murarmau, Daundia Khera and Purwa in inheritance. He was the forefather of the late Raja Digbijai Sinh, who rendered eminent services to the British cause during the

Mutiny. He saved the only four survivors of the Cawnpur Tragedy. For this he was rewarded by a considerable accession of territory from the estate of his cousins of Daundia Khera confiscated for their having joined the rebels. He was created a C. S. I. He died in 1867, when he was succeeded by his son the present Raja of Murarmau.

SHEOPRASAD SINH (of Parenda), *Raja*.

The Dikhit clan of Rajputs to which the Raja of Parenda belongs claims descent from the *Suryabansi* Rajas of Ajudhya. The clan assumed the tribal name of Dikhit from the title bestowed by Vikramaditya on Kalian Sah, a descendant of Durgban, who had gone to the great king to pay him his homage. Durgban was the son of a Raja of Ajudhya, who migrated to Gujarat. Balbhadra Dikhit, a descendant of Kalian Sah, entered the service of the Rathor Raja of Kanouj, who granted to him a small tract of land in Banda. Of the four sons of Raja Jaswant Sinh, the grandson of Balbhadra Dikhit, Udebhan returned to the country from which his forefather Durgban had first migrated and settled in a part of Oudh which has since been known as Dikhtiyana. He assumed the title of Raja and began to rule over the country on his town behalf. The country was partitioned among the six sons of Raja Runa Sinh, who was the sixth in descent from Udebhan. Of these, the second son, Raja Pannamal was the direct ancestor of the present Raja of Parenda. He settled at Patheora. He was slain in an action with the Mughal General, Mahmud Amin Khan. On his death, the Chandel Raja of Sheorajpur made preparations for annexing his territory as his son Raja Nirbhan was away to his maternal home at the time when the tragic incident occurred. He was at once sent for. He met the Raja of Chandel in a single combat and shot him in the forehead by means of an arrow. Nirbhan settled at Unao and did not rebuild the old fort. Birsinhpur was built by his grand-son Bir Sinh Deo. But the present headquarters of the family at Parenda were built by Raja Khirat Sinh. Raja Chandi Bakhsh was dethroned by the clan in 1852 and Raja Daya Shankar, the deposed Raja's first cousin, was set up in 1852. He proved a very active chieftain and augmented his territories to a great extent. He was loyal to the British Government during the Mutiny. He was succeeded by his son the present Raja Sheoprasad Sinh.

SHEORAM SINH LALA, *Raja of Argal*.

The Rajas of Argal, who claim their descent from the Vedic Saint Gautama, are the heads of the Thakurs of the Gautama clan, which was a

powerful clan in the Fatchpur District. Their power was broken near Kalpi, never to be regained. They, however, managed to retain a few possessions consisting of Argal and some territory in the neighbourhood till the present day. The present Raja is Sheoram Sinh Lala. He has four sons, the eldest of whom is Kunwar Ratan Sinh.

SHIDRAJ BHOJRAJ PUAR DESAI (of Mangsuli), *Raj*.

The title was acquired by Shidraj an ancestor of the family for pacifying the outbreak at Belgaum from an Emperor of Delhi. The family belongs to a Puar tribe of Rajputs and is descended from Bhupat Kedarji Desai. The present Chief was adopted in 1834 by the widow of the late Shidraj Desai.

SHIVAPRASAD, C. S. I., *Raja*.

He is descended from the Jagat Seth family of Murshidabad of the Oswal Vaishya caste. Raja Dal Chand, the great-grand-father of Raja Shiva Prasad, sought the British protection at Benares, when he incurred the displeasure of the Nawab of Murshidabad, who put two of his cousins to death. He was succeeded by his son, Uttam Chand.

Raja Shiva Prasad first entered the Department of Public Instruction N. W. Provinces and served for many years as an Inspector of schools. He was a Fellow of the Allahabad University and was created a C. S. I. in 1870. He was a clever man and a learned author. During the early stage of the Indian National Congress he, with his co-adjutor the Raja of Bhinga, strenuously opposed the movement and circulated pamphlets and leaflets stigmatizing it as disloyal. He died in 1893-94.

SUCHET SINH (of Dharm Singhwala), *Sardar*.

Sardar Dharm Sinh, the ancestor of the family, was one of the three sons of Bhumian, who took possession of Kang and the neighbouring villages in the Jalandhar district. He was succeeded by his son, Dal Sinh. His grandson, Sardar Gurdit Sinh, maintained his loyalty to the British Government during the Sikh Wars and during the Mutiny. He died in 1862, and was succeeded by the present Sardar.

SULTAN KHAN (of Pothi), *Raja*.

Sultan Khan is the chief of the Chib Rajputs, inhabiting the hills between the Bias and the Jhelum. These Rajput Chiefs have embraced the Mahomedan faith. Raja Hussain Mahmud Khan ruled over the territory running along the Jhelum. He was succeeded by Inayat-ullah Khan.

The late Raja Shujang Khan was a descendant in the third degree from Inayat-ullah-Khan. He was succeeded by his son, the present Raja. He remained loyal to the Government during the Mutiny. The title of Khan Bahadur was conferred on him as a personal distinction in 1890.

SUNDAR SINH (of Malaudh), *Sardar*.

He is the younger brother of Sardar Badan Singh under whom the account of the family has been given.

SURAT KUNWAR (of Khairigarh), *Rani*.

The Rajput Pahari family of the solar race, to which the late Raja Indra Bikram Sah belonged, is descended from Dip Sah, whose ancestors were the Chiefs of Dhoti in Nepal. He with his family was compelled to leave the confines of Nepal at the instance of the Garkhas in 1790. Thereupon he came to Khairigarh in Oudh and settled there. His sons actively aided the British Government during the Nepal War of 1812, for which the junior branch of the family still enjoys a handsome pension. The Brahman proprietor of Kanchanpur was drowned in the Chanka river by the two brothers, who thereupon became the masters of the place in 1821. The estate of Khairigarh was acquired in 1830, by overpowering its Banjara owners, who were expelled therefrom. The estate was confirmed to Raj Ganga Sah first at the time of the annexation of Oudh and again after the suppression of the Mutiny. On the cession of Kanchanpur to the Nepal Government in 1859, the loss to the family was made good by the grant of the confiscated estate of Dhanrahra. The late Raja Indra Bikram Sah succeeded his father Raj Rhundaj Sah, the son of Raj Ganga Sah. He was educated at the Canning College. He died childless in 1885, leaving three widows; the senior of whom Rani Surat Kunwar succeeded him by virtue of Act I of 1869.

SURPAL SINH (of Tiloi), *Raja Bahadur*.

He belongs to the great Kanhpuria tribe, whose account has already been given under Jagnishan Sinh. The Rajas of Tiloi have descended from Rahas, the younger son of Kanh. Raja Prasad Sinh, a descendant in the sixth degree from Rahas divided his territories between his three sons, to the eldest of whom Raja Janga Sinh passed Tiloi. His descendant in the fourth degree, Raja Khande Rai apportioned his estate between his two sons; Tiloi being apportioned to the eldest Udebhan. His son, Raja Surat Sinh, was a successful ruler, who largely added to the power and stability of his principality, between 1670 and 1680. Four of his success-

ors maintained the position acquired by the Raj till 1784. When Raja Balbhadar died without any issue, of his two widows, the one, who immolated herself on the funeral pyre, invested her husband's kinsman Chhtardhari with the Raja's cap. This informal adoption was not recognized by the tribesmen and consequently the surviving widow adopted Shankar Sinh. This double adoption led to a prolonged war of succession, which considerably weakened the power of the Raj. After a struggle for fifteen years, it was arranged that both the competitors should have the title of Raja, but neither to have the ancestral seat of Tiloi. Shankar Sinh took his title from Asni. He was a peaceful and a prudent ruler. He recovered Tiloi after a lapse of some years. He was succeeded by his son and grandson, Raja Buniad Sinh and Jagpal Sinh in due succession. Jagpal sent his retinue to join the mutinous following in 1857, but abstained from further committing himself to the rebel cause, and early in 1858 tendered his submission. He was much harassed by the rebellious Talukdars and was shut up in his fort by the rebel host. He was rescued by the British troops long after he keenly suffered from the great straits to which he was reduced. His services were rewarded by the grant of a portion of the adjacent confiscated territory. He died in 1875.

He was succeeded by the present Raja Surpal Sinh at the age of five. The title of Raja was confirmed by the British Government in 1877 and the title of Raja Bahadur was recognized as hereditary in 1882.

MAHARAJA KUMUD CHANDRA SINH, *Maharaja of Susang.*

The family has held sway over the *pargana* of Susang and adjacent wild country of Garo hills from such early times that its origin is obscured in the mist of antiquity. There independence was maintained under the title of *malik* till the reign of Emperor Jahangir, when the reins of the Raj fell loose from the dying hands of the last independent Raja Malik Janaki Nath in the hold of his son and successor Raja Raghu Nath. The fragrant wood called *Agar* was required at the Imperial Court of Delhi, which being the product of the Garo hills, Raghu Nath agreed to supply in return for the title of Raja and a contingent of Imperial troops that he badly required to put down his turbulent neighbours. The titles of 'Garo Jumli Mansabi, Darjai Mansabi and Panch Hazari' were also confirmed on him on the occasion. His successors Ram Nath and Ram Jiban Sinh abided by the arrangement. Jiban Sinh, being the nephew of his predecessor, received a *sanad* from the Imperial Court recognizing both his succession as Zamindar and

the title of Raja. In the reign of the Emperor Aurangzeb a money payment in lieu of the supply of *Agar* wood was substituted. The Decennial settlement was made with Raja Rai Sinh, who had succeeded his brother Raja Kishor Sinh in 1784. His elder son Baidya Nath predeceased him, consequently on his death in 1822, he was succeeded by Raja Biswa Sinh, the younger son. His son and successor, Pran Krishna Sinh, received the title of Raja Bahadur in 1862 which he lived to enjoy but two years. The title of Maharaja conferred on his son Raja Raj Krishna Sinh in 1877, as a personal distinction, was declared to be hereditary in 1884. He died in 1890 and Chandra Sinh, who was then twenty-four years old, succeeded him. He graduated in 1889 from the Presidency College, Calcutta.

TAGORE, MAHARAJA SIR JOTEENDRA MOHAN BAHADUR.

K. C. S. I. *Maharaja Bahadur.*

The Tagores, which is the Anglicised form of Thakur, are a family of Kulin Brahmins descended from Bhatt Narayan, one of the five Brahmins, who were invited by King Adisura to Bengal from the Court of King Vir Sinh of Kanouj in about 994. Bhatt Narayan left a numerous progeny of sixteen sons; in the line of one them, Nri Sinh or Nanu, was born Dharnidhar, the author of a commentary on the Institutes of *Manu*. Dhananjai, the grandson of Dharnidhar, was a Judge under King Ballala Sena of Bengal. He established the social system of "Kulinism" which was aimed at giving pre-eminence to the five Brahmins and five Kayasthas, who had been brought to Bengal by Adisura. His son Halayudh was a Prime Minister under King Lakshman Sena. Jagannath, the famous man of letters, styled Pandit Raj or Prince of Pandits for his erudite learning, was a descendant in the sixth degree of Mahendra, who was Dhananjai's grandson. Purushottam, the son of Jagannath, was a man of some pretensions having written several works including 'Prayaga Ratna Mala.' He was condemned by his brother Pandits for having married the daughter of a man, who had accidentally smelt the forbidden food and was consequently outcasted. His descendant in the sixth degree was one Panchanan, who was the first to assume the style of Thakur. He took up his quarters at Govindpur on the banks of the Hugli, where he erected a temple dedicated to Siva. His son Jairam was the *Amin* of the twenty-four *Parganas*. He removed to Patlahariaghatta when the site of his father's residence was taken by the English Government for the new fort after the events of the Black Hole Tragedy. There a dwelling house and a bathing ghat

were built by him. He died in 1762 leaving four sons, from two of whom, Darpa Narayan and Nilmani, are descended the now existing senior and junior branches of the family.

Gopi Mohan was the second son of Darpa Narayan. He added immensely to the huge fortune that he had inherited from his father. He was a public benefactor and his contribution to the fund for the establishment of the Hindu College, now known as the Presidency College, was so large that he was appointed, along with the Maharaja of Burdwan, the Governor of the great Institution. He had six sons of whom Hara Kumar, being the eldest, became the head of the family; of the rest, Prasanna Kumar was a distinguished lawyer and a politician. He was a voluminous writer of works on law and jurisprudence. He wrote a minute on the subject of Public Instruction which was published by the Government in 1841 along with its Educational Regulations. He was the founder of the Landowners Association of Bengal. He was created a C. S. I. He was a worker in the cause of social reform with his cousin Dwarka Nath. On his death in 1866, he left a large sum of seven *lakhs* of rupees for public and charitable purposes, out of which the Tagore Law Lectureships were founded. His services to the public were summed up in the following terse passage by the late Jaykissen Mukerji.

“There was scarcely a movement during the last forty years either for the assertion of the political rights or for the social advancement of the people in which he was not either the originator or one of its warmest supporters.”

The elder brother, Hara Kumar Tagore, was a Sanskrit scholar and a man alike distinguished for the blamelessness of his life as for his amiability. He died in 1858. He left two sons, Joteendra Mohan, the present head of the family, and Surendra Mohan. Joteendra Mohan was born in 1831 and his younger brother in 1840. Both of them were educated at the Hindu College. Joteendra has a turn for poetry and has written many excellent Bengali dramas and farces; the most remarkable of which is the *Bidya Sundara Natak*. He was for some time the Honourary Secretary of the British Indian Association; he was elected its President in 1879 and continues to act in that capacity since 1891. He was nominated a Member of the Legislative Council of Bengal as also of the Viceroy's Legislative Council for several years. The title of Raja Bahadur was conferred on him in 1871 and at the same time was exempted from personal appearance in

Civil Courts. The title of Maharaja Bahadur conferred in 1890 was declared to be hereditary in the following year. He was created a C. S. I. in 1879 and was raised to the Knighthood of the Order in 1882. He made a free gift of the site for the Mayo Hospital and contributed 10,000 Rupees in aid of the Institution. He also founded several valuable Scholarships in the name of his father and uncle. He has endowed the Calcutta University with a large fund out of which a gold *keyur* or armlet is annually presented to the best student of Sanskrit; two gold medals are also founded by him in connection with the Tagore Law Lectures Examination and in Physical science. He was elected the President of the Reception Committee during the visit of the late Prince Albert Victor in 1889. He has presented a bust of his uncle to the Calcutta University and a bust of his father to the Municipality in the square named after him.

He has founded an endowment of a *lakh* of rupees for the benefit of Hindu widows and the fund is named Maharajmata Shib Sundari Devi's Hindu Widows' Fund.

As the other members of this widely known and talented family have played an illustrious role, it will neither be uninteresting nor out of place to give a short outline of their successful career.

The younger brother of Sir Joteendra Mohan, Raja Sir Surindra Mohan, is a perfect master both of the theory and practice of Sanskrit Music. He has written an original drama and a translation of Kalidas' *Malvikagni-mitra*. His various works on drama, music and the cognate subjects number in all sixty. He founded the Bengal Music School in 1871 and the Bengal Academy of Music in 1881. These Institutions are maintained by him under his personal superintendence. He is also a *connoisseur* of gems and has written a work named *Mari Mala* on the subject.

His translation of the National Anthem into Bengali was approved by the National Anthem for India Committee and he set the translation to twelve varieties of Indian Melody. He was addressed by the Committee as the highest Musical authority in India. For his speciality in Music he has received an unprecedented number of decorations from almost all the civilized countries of the world which it would be impossible here to quote at length. The degree of Doctor of Music, conferred by the Philadelphia University in 1875, was confirmed by the British Government, who created him a C. I. E. in 1880 and bestowed on him the title of Raja.

He was also created a Knight of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

Their illustrious cousins of the junior branch and the grand-sons of Nilmani Tagore were Honourable Dwarka Nath and Maharaja Rama Nath. Dwarka Nath visited Europe frequently, where he was honoured by the most gratifying marks of Royal favours. On the occasion of his visit to Windsor Castle, Her Most Gracious Majesty specially ordered miniatures of herself and Prince Consort to be prepared for being presented to him. In 1842 he received a Gold Medal and an appreciative letter from the Board of Directors of the Hon. East India Company. He died in 1846 in London amidst the universal regret of all those who knew him. His brother Rama Nath was created a C. S. I. in 1874 and a Maharaja in 1877. He was nominated a member of the Viceroy's Legislative Council in 1872 and has also held the office of the Vice-President and the President of the British Indian Association. He was chosen to be the Chairman of the Reception Committee on the occasion of the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who presented him with a beautiful ring as a *souvenir* of the auspicious occasion.

TARA SINGH (of Chuni Machhli, Bhareli), *Sardar*.

Sardar Majja Singh occupied certain territory in the Jalandhar district, from which he was turned out by Maharaja Ranjit Singh. Thereupon he crossed the Sutlej and acquired the estate at present in the possession of the family. He was succeeded by his son Dal Singh and his grandson Kanh Singh. Sardar Kanh Singh had two sons, Basant Singh and Jaswant Singh. The former died childless and the latter was the father of the present Sardar Tara Singh. Jaswant Singh was rewarded for his services during the Mutiny by the permanent remissions in taxation.

THAKUR PRASAD NARAYAN DEVA, *Raja of Haldi*.

The Chiefs of Haldi belong to a family of Hyobans Rajputs of the Lunar race and are the modern representatives of the Hyobans House of Ratanpur in the Central Provinces. They, under a Royal Prince Chandra Got, first settled at Manjha on the Goghra, whence they removed after a sojourn of two hundred years to Bihia to the south of the Ganges. The circumstances under which they had to leave this head-quarter were rather tragic. In 1528 or there about their Chief Bhopat Deo violated the chastity of Maheni, a Brahman woman, who for that fell crime imprecated curses on the whole Hyobans family. Thus Haldi was fixed upon as their final home where they continue to flourish till the present day. Raja Bahubal Singh was the ruler of the estate at the time of Chait Singh's revolt in 1781. He was recognized by the British Government. He died in 1803. His

successors, Raja Ishri Prasad and Raja Dalganjam Sinh, died respectively in 1806 and 1825, when Raja Harak Nath Deo succeeded the latter. The late Raja Sarab Narayan Deo was a Prince of considerable influence, which he employed in the interest of the British Government when the Mutiny broke out. A large tract of territory, one of the confiscated estate of the neighbouring rebel Prince Kunwar Sinh, was added to his possessions by way of reward. The present ruler of Haldi is Thakur Prasad Narayan Deva.

TILAK SINH (of Mustafabad), *Sardar*.

He is descended from the Jat Sardar Mahtab Sinh, who, in 1759, occupied Mustafabad and the neighbouring territory. His Trans-Sultej possessions were seized by Maharaja Ranjit; but the Cis-Sultej *jagir* was saved by seeking the British Protection. His son, Sardar Ratan Sinh, had two sons; Sardars Gursaran Sinh and Sardar Dewa Sinh. The present Sardar succeeded his father Dewa Sinh.

UDAI NARAYAN MAL, *Raja of Majhauri*.

The family of the Chief Uday Narayan Mal belongs to the great Bisen clan which rules in the Gorakhpur district. It derives its origin from the famous Mayur Bhat by his Rajputani wife, Surajprabha. Their son was Biswa or Bisu Sen from whom the Raja claims his descent. His descendants to seventy-nine generations were all styled 'Sen' which was changed to 'Mal,' when Raja Hardeo was entitled 'Mal' for his great physical strength by the Emperor of Delhi. During Emperor Akbar's reign, Bodh Mal, who was then the head of the family, was arrested for default in paying tribute and whilst in prison he became a convert to Mahomedanism, and assumed the name of Mahmud Salim. On his return, when his Rani was apprised of his change of religion, he was refused entrance into the town. He thereupon went across the Little Gandak, and founded the town of Salimpur. His Rani ruled during her son's minority in his name. During the time of Raja Ajit Mal, (1753-1806.) the British Government occupied the District. Raja Tej Mal, the father of the present Raja, ruled from 1815 to 1843. The son and heir of Uday Narayan, Lal Kharag Bahadur, was born in 1853.

UDAI NARAYAN SINH (of Babhnipair), *Raja*

Sahaj Sah, the ancestor of the Kalhan Rajas of Khurasa, came from Rajputana and took service with Malik Ain-ud-din, the then ruler of southern Oudh in the fourteenth century. He was a descendant of Jurasindhu, the famous King of Behar. He was assigned a *jagir* across the Gogra for having helped his master in checking the elements of mischief in his dominion. He settled in the country by expelling the Doms, whose king had offended

him by asking the hand of his fair daughter in marriage. The Dom Raja, with his party was invited to dinner where they were murdered in cold blood, when they had grown quite tipsy with strong drinks administered to them. The dynasty thus established lasted till the sixteenth century, when the seventh and the last King of the House, Achal Narayan Sinh, by a fell and wicked deed of shame courted destruction which soon overtook the whole family. He carried off the daughter of a Ratan Pande Brahmin Zamindar and ravished her in his fort of Lurhiaghat in Khurasa.

The outraged father sat *Dharma* for twenty one days without taking food or drinking water; when at length death overtook him, he cursed the House with his parting breath with utter destruction. The curse was, however, modified in favour of the children of the junior Rani, who had endeavoured to induce the Brahmin to desist from his terrible resolve. To them he promised a small Raj, but that they should be blind as his eyes had fallen out from hunger. A wave of the river Sarju destroyed the palace with all those inhabiting it except the Rani, who had already left for her father's home at Rasulpur Ghaus, being forewarned of the danger by the Brahmin. A posthumous son was born to her, who was named Bhing Sinh. He got into the possession of a small Raj including Babhnipair and Burhapara in Gonda and Rasulpur Ghaus in Basti. These possessions with the exception of Burhapara which was seized by Alawal Khan, the Pathan Chief of Atraula in the life-time of Bhing Sinh, passed to his descendants to the fifth degree in succession in their entirety. They were, however, divided by Madhukar Sinh, the sixth descendant, between his two sons, Raj Sinh and Himat Sinh, the former receiving Rasulpur Ghaus with title of Raja, while the latter Babhnipair with the title of Babu. Keshri Sinh, the grandson of Raj Sinh, was slain in a battle with the Raja of Bansi, who annexed the conquered territory with his dominions. His son, Shuja Sinh, was adopted by his cousin Babu Rani Sinh of Babhnipair estate. He was succeeded by his son Abdhut Sinh, who died in 1821; his next successor Raja Jai Sinh held the *jagir* till his death, which occurred shortly before the annexation of Oudh. The estates were settled with Rani Sarfaraz Kumar, the widow of Indrajit Sinh, on the re-occupation of Oudh. She died in 1873 and was succeeded by her son the present Raja Udai Narayan Sinh, who was then nineteen years old. He was educated at the Canning College and was put in possession of his estates on his succession thereto, which were placed under the management of the Court of Wards in 1867.

UDAI PARTAP SINH, *Raja of Bhinga.*

The family to which the Raja of Bhinga belongs is Rajput by caste and of the Bisen clan. He is the representative of the junior line of the

Gonda Bisens, the elder branch being now extinct. The ancestors of the family were Zamindars of Gohani in the Digsai *pargana* and the Chaudhris of the Khurasa *pargana* under the Kalhan Rajas. The founder of the present town of Gonda was one Man Sinh, who was the grandson of one Pratap Sinh, who is said to have flourished at the close of the fifteenth century. Two traditions worth recording obtain in the family as to the origination of the title of Raja and the incident that led to the foundation of the town. It was brought to the notice of Emperor Jahangir in 1618 by Mirzan Ali Beg of Khurasa that a remarkably fine elephant was caught by Man Sinh in the adjacent Tarai Jungles. The Emperor thereupon invited him to his Court with the beast. The Zamindar was recompensed for the loss of his acquisition by the bestowal of the title of Raja. As he was engaged in the pursuit of a hare, it turned round, and put the hounds to flight. He observed that "if the air of this place will make hares braver than hounds, what will it not do for men." He peopled the place and called it Gonda after a cowshed that stood at the place.

The family annals make mention of one Raja Ram Sinh, who flourished at the close of the seventeenth century and credits him with having considerably extended his estate. It is said that he had no sons and consequently he propitiated Ganga Gir Gosain, the most renowned saint of Ajoudhya of his time. The saint ordered two of his best disciples, Datt and Bhawani, to go to Benares and to pray to the holy river, as the edge of the guillotine came over their necks, to bless the Chief of Gonda with two sons. This human sacrifice had its desired effect and the sons thus dearly got were named Datt and Bhawani.

The saint also gave him a tooth-pick, which he directed him to plant at Gonda. It was to serve as an index of the Bisen family's prosperity, which would endure so long as it remained fresh and green. It threw out two branches, one of which, it is said, fell down during a hurricane at the time the Mutiny broke out, thereby warning the family of the coming confiscation of the estate of Raja Devi Bakhsh Sinh, who was the then representative of the elder branch.

Raja Datt Sinh, the son of Ram Sinh, was a well-known warrior of his time. He headed a movement against the Oudh government and defeated its General Alawal Khan at the battle of Sarbangpur. He succeeded in extorting a treaty from that Government whereby his separate jurisdiction in his principality was recognized. He sent his younger brother, Bhawani Sinh, to Bhinga to defend it against its enemies and to suppress the Banjaras. When the Janwar Chieftain died, Bhawani Sinh seized the *gadi* as the former had no issue and began to rule there as a dependency of the Bisen

family. His strong arm had restored order within the Bhinga jagir and consequently none of the near relatives of the deceased could oppose him. He extended this estate to the banks of the Rapti river and also considerable portion of Tarai was brought by him under his sway.

The present Raja Uday Partap Singh is the sixteenth in descent from Bhawani Singh. He was educated at the Ward's Institution at Lucknow. He is a Fellow of the Allahabad University and has published a pamphlet "Democracy not suited to India" as his contribution against the Indian National Congress movement. His son and heir Surendra Bikrama Singh was born in 1878.

UDIT NARAYAN SINGH, *Raja of Tirwa.*

Raja Udit Narayan belongs to a Vaghel Rajput family, which, under the leadership of his ancestor Bazag Gir Deo, migrated from Gujarat and settled in Rewah. One Bhaun Pratap, some degrees removed from him, went to the Court of Raja Jai Chand, the famous Rahtor Prince of Kanauj, and found shelter there. Tirwa was made the family head-quarter in the 17th century by Dharm Das. The family acquired great influence and importance under Partap Singh and Sumer Singh by its connection with the Nawab Vaziers of Oudh, whom the latter assisted at the battle of Buxar. Sumer Singh was rewarded by Emperor Shah Alam with the title of Raja Bahadur and the dignity of a *mansab* of 3000.

UJJAL SINGH (of Dhanaura), *Sardar.*

Hazuri Singh was the ancestor of the Khatri family to which the present Sardar Ujjal Singh belongs. He had three sons, Sardars Dharam Singh, Karam Singh and Sada Singh. They conquered a large territory in the Punjab, particularly Dhanaura and its neighbouring territory being the conquests of the youngest son. Dharam Singh was succeeded by his son, who in turn was succeeded by his son, Natha Singh. His son Dewa Singh was the father of the present Sardar. Along with other Cis-Sutlej States, it passed under British Protection in 1809.

UMRAO SINGH (of Majithia), *Sardar.*

Izzat Singh was the ancestor of the branch of this Majithia family of Shergil Jats to which Sardar Umrao Singh belongs. A portion of the Dhanni country was taken possession of by him and held till his death in 1772. His grand-son, Sardar Attar Singh, was allowed to retain the estate by Maharaja Ranjit Singh, though the whole of Dhanni territory was overrun by his forces. He was killed in Hazara in 1843, and was succeeded by his son, Surat Singh. He was at the bottom of the First Sikh

War; consequently his estates were confiscated when the Punjab occupied by the British red-coats and he was banished to Benarès. The break-out of the Mutiny was the occasion for displaying his loyalty. He at the head of his Sikh followers guarded the Treasury at Benarès, attacked a party of Rajput rebels which he dispersed. He was, however, severely wounded. These services were liberally rewarded by the title Bahadur, a rich pension and a valuable *jagir*. He was also later on created a C. S. I. He was permitted to return to Punjab and he passed the rest of his days at Majithia. In 1877, the title of Raja as a personal distinction was conferred on him. On his death he was succeeded by the present Sardar Umrao Singh.

RAJA SIR VELAGOTI SHRI RAJA GOPALA KRISHNA
YACHENDRA BAHADUR, *raja of Venkatagiri.*

The present Raja is twenty-seventh in descent from Chenireddi, an ancestor of the family. A large *jagir* was awarded to him by the Raja of Varagala for unearthing a hidden treasure. The *jagir* was considerably augmented by fresh acquisitions and additions under his descendants. The title of *Panch Hazari Mansabdar* was bestowed on the head of the family by a Mughal Government. The father of the present Raja was born in 1832 and created a C. S. I. The present Raja was nominated member of the Legislative Council for Madras in 1888 and also in 1890. The title of K. C. I. E. was conferred on him in 1888, and the title 'Raja of Venkatagiri' was recognized to be hereditary in 1890.

ZAFAR HUSAIN KHAN, *Nawab of Farukhabad.*

The vigour of a few leaders of the Bangash Pathan family created for them a principality which was lost to it by a succession of its effete sons. The stock is said to have migrated from Kohat under the leadership of a Khan, and taken up its quarters at the village of Mau Rashidabad (Kai ganj) during the reign of the Emperor Aurangzeb and accepted service in the cavalry. During the struggle that ensued between Farukhsiyar and Jahandar Shah for the throne of Delhi, Mahmud Khan, the first distinguished head of the family and son of Ain Khan, to whose sinewy arms and political sagacity it owed all that it acquired, sided with the former and in the triumph of the success was rewarded with the dignity of a *Char Haza*, the title of Nawab and an extensive territory including Kalpi, Kun Sipri, Jalaun and others in 1713. In the next year Farukhabad was founded and named after his parton. In the suppression of the two towers of strength of the Empire, the Saiyyad brothers, he seems to have rendered important services to the Emperor Mahmud Shah, in 1720, for which

